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THE PERWICH PAPERS

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THE DESPATCHES
OF
WILLIAM PERWICH

ENGLISH AGENT IN PARIS

1669-1677

PRESERVED IN THE FOREIGN STATE PAPERS OF
THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

EDITED FOR THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY

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PREFACE

THE diplomatic correspondence from which the despatches printed in this volume have been selected is preserved in the Public Record Office amongst the Archives of the Foreign Office, catalogued as 'State Papers, France.' They form a portion of the multifarious contents of the old State Paper Office in Whitehall, which were brought to light after the death of the famous Secretary of State of King Charles II., Sir Joseph Williamson, who was also keeper of the State Papers.

The bundles in which these reports were formerly preserved seem to have been kept apart from the remainder of the series of French despatches, with the distinctive label 'William Perwich.' This arrangement might seem to indicate that these letters were regarded as possessing a special value, but the bundles in question were subsequently dispersed in the chronological arrangement of the State Papers. Unfortunately the series of letters is not continuous, and is probably incomplete. It extends from 1669 to 1677, but the letters are more numerous from 1669 to 1673, and from this year to 1677 long gaps occur in the official collection. Possibly these may be due to Perwich's temporary absence from his mission, but the loss of a considerable number of letters may be easily inferred from their later classification.

It is to be regretted that so little information can be gleaned from contemporary sources concerning the writer of these

despatches, whose official career is unrecorded in any biographical work. The earliest mention of his name occurs in the State Papers of August 1666, in a letter which contains the statement that certain London agents have forwarded letters for Sir Joseph Williamson and Mr. Perwich.¹ In the year 1668 we find him as a member of Lord Arlington's household in correspondence with Sir Joseph Williamson, who was at that time Under-Secretary for State.² From the letters contained in this volume it is evident that Perwich was employed in an official capacity, but that he was not one of the trained body of clerks connected with the Secretary of State's office under the immediate supervision of Williamson himself.³ It is possible that he may have been employed as private secretary to Lord Arlington, for in 1668 we find him writing to Williamson from Bath, acknowledging the receipt of his Lordship's letters,⁴ and thanking him on Lord Arlington's behalf for letters sent by Mr. Stanley.⁵

In the early part of the year 1669 Lord Montagu started on his mission to Paris, and it is evident that William Perwich accompanied him, for in a letter dated February 20, 1670, we learn that he had been appointed secretary of the embassy, which he speaks of as 'a new employment;' and a certain Alfred Ellis, writing to Williamson in April 1670, suggests that all postal arrangements shall be transferred to Mr. Perwich, 'who understands our disputes much better,' rather than to Mr. Francis Vernon.⁶

The latter had been appointed secretary to the embassy in Paris, but he appears to have given some dissatisfaction to the government at home, and during the next few years Perwich made

¹ *S. P., Dom.*, Ch. II., August 6, 1666.

² *Ibid.* May 21, 1668.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.* July 18, 1668.

⁵ *Ibid.* July 22, 1668.

⁶ *Ibid.* April 21, 1670.

good use of the opportunity thus afforded him for the display of his talents as a diplomatist.

During the period of negotiations immediately preceding and following upon the second Dutch war of 1672 he seems to have been the chief source of information to the English Government, and whilst Sir Joseph Williamson was acting as one of the plenipotentiaries to the Congress at Cologne Perwich maintained a close correspondence with him from Paris and endeavoured to keep him well informed on all matters concerning the relations between England and France.

It is clear that the officials at home placed great reliance on his opinions, and Robert Yard, in one of his letters from Whitehall to Sir Joseph Williamson, whilst the latter was in Cologne, remarks that there is no foreign news to communicate, as Mr. Perwich had taken another way to send Lord Arlington the advices of those parts (meaning France and Italy).¹

In the Montagu correspondence preserved at Beaulieu there are various allusions to William Perwich, all tending to show the value of his services to the Secretary of State. However, like many other public servants at this time, he seems to have found a difficulty in getting money from England, and on one occasion complains that for nine months he had not received any part of his official salary, 'his own small stock being long since devoured in letters and other extraordinary expenses, having for other subsistence been beholding to Sir Stephen Fox.'²

The last mention we have of William Perwich is found in a letter dated February 6, 1677, in which Montagu asks Lord Arlington if he is really much interested in Mr. Perwich, who, he says, 'is at a stand, though he can seldom stand, for he is most eternally drunk. Therefore, pray, my Lord, tell me in your

¹ *Letters of Sir J. Williamson*, i. 10. ² *S. P., France*, December 30, 1673.

next whether you are in jest or earnest concerned for him; if in earnest, I will do him all the service I can, though he can do me none.' ¹

Want of space has caused the omission of many of the letters, and in some cases where letters of the same date are addressed to Lord Arlington and Sir Joseph Williamson passages have been omitted to avoid repetition. Where the original is in cipher, only the deciphered portions have been printed, in accordance with a long-established usage. The majority of the letters are in English, but from the writer's frequent use of French words and phrases, and especially from his addiction to such gallicisms as 'nothing of extraordinary,' &c.,² it is evident that he was well versed in the French language. Indeed we may easily conclude that Perwich owed his success as a diplomatic agent to his perfect familiarity with the inner life of the French capital. At the same time it may be inferred that the smallness of his official emoluments must have deprived him of many of the advantages attached to his official position, and we may even suspect that the gossip of the Bohemian quarter was not infrequently retailed to his employers as special information.

In transcribing the original despatches it has been thought desirable, on this occasion, to preserve the paleography (in the shape of abbreviations) and, to some extent, the punctuation of the MSS., since a modernised script would have left no impression of the writer's peculiarities of style and orthography. The abbreviations, where unintelligible, have been expanded, but the numerous eccentricities of spelling have been preserved.

The special value of the Perwich Papers consists in the light which they throw upon the history of France between the Treaty

¹ *Montagu-Arlington Correspondence*, February 6, 1677, p. 523.

² See p. 120.

of Aix-la-Chapelle and that of Nimwegen. The aim of the foreign policy of France during this eventful period is well marked by the various intrigues designed to break up the Triple Alliance and to win England over to the French interest, to destroy the commercial supremacy of Holland, and to develop the industrial and carrying trade of France at the expense of her foreign rivals.

But Perwich did not confine himself exclusively to the doings of the French Government. Whatever information came to hand from Spain, Poland, Italy, or any of the German States was immediately transmitted to England. The main portion of the letters, however, is concerned with the designs of France to break up the Triple Alliance and to increase the power of the Great Monarch both on sea and land.

When Montagu was sent over as English Ambassador to Paris in 1669, Charles Colbert, brother of Jean Colbert, was designated as French Ambassador to England, whose king was reported to have 'no greater desire than to make an alliance with France.' He arrived in London at the same time that Temple started for the Hague with instructions to form, if possible, a powerful league against Louis by enlisting the support of the Swiss cantons and the Princes of Brandenburg, Luxembourg, and Saxe.¹ It is clear that Temple must have worked unsuccessfully to this end, for Perwich informs Sir Joseph Williamson that 'the Swisses have been lately bought off for their intention of creeping into the Triple Alliance.'²

Louis was anxious to complete an alliance with Charles II. before Parliament met in England, and 'apprehended much that Van Beuninghen is to go ambassador for England, whom they have, as they say, great reason to hate.'³

¹ Mignet, *Négociations relatives à la Succession d'Espagne sous Louis XIV.* iii, 23.

² *State Papers, France*, May 1, 1669.

³ *Ibid.* April 17, 1669.

Numerous references are made to the methods which Louis employed to augment his army, and we read that 'no stone is left unturned wherby the king may with conveniency increase his strength.'¹

Trade between England and France appears to have been almost at a standstill. Colbert carried out his 'protective' system by forbidding 'the vent of foreign drapery.'² No draper in Paris was allowed to buy any but the manufactures of France under pain of confiscation. On the other hand, in June 1669 his French subjects are much dissatisfied 'that this king having given a free liberty to his subjects to transport corne into foreign countreys, severall ships have lately been in England to vent their graneries, but found a prohibition against any such importation, because England was as abounding in corne as France, & soe are returned & lost their voyage.'³ And again, Perwich writes that 'Mr. Colbert does turn & wind in this matter of trade & makes no difficulty to do anything, though manifestly against all treaties, to breake the neck of our English sale of drapery here.'⁴

As the time drew near for Louis to begin his conquest of the Low Countries he assured the Queen of Spain that she need not be alarmed at his preparations—'the same message (Perwich remarks) that he had sent two years ago when he invaded Flanders.'⁵ His endeavours to make a league with the Electors of Brandenburg, Cologne, Bavaria, and Münster 'to second his designs against the Hollander, whom they call insolent people to dare cope with a mighty monarch,' were not so effective as the French gave out, and Louis was anxious to bring about an alliance before he started on his 'progresse' into Flanders in the spring 'to visit ye new fortifications.' According to Perwich 'ye k^e designes a warre wth

¹ *State Papers, France*, May 11, 1669.

² *Ibid.* Sept. 24, 1669.

³ *Ibid.* June 26, 1669.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.* Feb. 1, 1670.

Holland under cover of the Bp of Munster,'¹ and every possible pretext was put forward to begin this war. In a letter of January 18, 1670, we read : ' There is a peice of land in the Dutch dominions, & particularly in the possession of a gent. of Groenningen, to w^{ch} the Bp. of Munster lays clayme, as belonging to him ; the Dutch, rather then embroyle themselves for a thing so small, especially whatever is detain'd from the Bp. becoming a generall quarrell & here called a *sainledge* (i.e. *sacrilege*), are contented to deliver the few acres into his possession, but are jealous that hee may fortify upon it & soe keep a gate to let his armys into that countrey when hee pleaseth.'

In May 1670 'Madam Henrietta' visited England, and the secret Treaty of Dover was signed on the 1st of June by Arlington, Arundel, Clifford, and Bellings for England and Colbert for France.² Perwich gives a graphic account of the sudden death of this princess on her return, and does not hesitate to express his indignation at the conduct of 'Monsieur.' He remarks : ' But now, whilst all the world [is] in tears & extraordinary affliction, you may well aske what did Monsieur. Whi he imediately employed himself in sasing all Mad^m's money, to a farthing, in any of her ladis' hands, al her jewels, & imediately hastned to Paris & tumble over her papers.'³

Buckingham went over to France in August of 1670,⁴ and the 'extraordinary entertaynment' he had there and 'a resolucõn lately taken to send on Wednesday next about 15 thous^d men from the camp to *rendevous* at Perenne, commanded by Marshall Crequy,' confirmed the belief in France 'that the league is broken.'⁵ His mission was apparently concerned with an arrangement with Louis on behalf of the Protestants and with measures to obtain some

¹ *State Papers, France*, New Year's Day, 1670.

² Mignet, iii. 199.

³ *S. P., France*, July 1
June 21, 1670.

⁴ Mignet, iii. 221.

⁵ *S. P., France*, August 23, 1670.

redress for the ill-usage which our London merchants suffered in the sale of woollen cloths & English silke stockins.’¹

Both Louis and Colbert were anxious to begin war in the spring of 1671, and ‘the whole intent’ was to swell up the *Trésor Royal*. Perwich remarks that ‘all buildings are surceased, I mean, *maisons royales*, neither are the musick, *escuries*, &c., paid regularly, as formerly.’² The different offices were sold for large sums, for from a letter dated January 6, 1674, we learn that the king, ‘having suppressed a great number of *greffiers* all over the kingdom, has issued out commissions for 600 more, w^{ch} are to be bought by particulars & will raise great sums of money,’ and from time to time Louis endeavoured ‘to squeeze the Parliament into some *Arrests* that will bring him in millions.’

Meanwhile Van Beuninghen, the Ambassador from the Hague, had not been very successful in his mission to England.³ The Emperor had not joined the Triple Alliance, as had been contemplated, and Sir William Temple had been recalled to England, a circumstance from which ‘the Court of France proposeth great things.’⁴

The Lorrainers had shown their intention of raising an army for the Dutch, and in consequence 800 of the militia had been ‘condemned to the galleys for disobeying the declaration ye French made at first,’⁵ summoning all to fidelity to France, &c.’

As Louis had encountered greater difficulties than he had expected in his negotiations with the princes of Germany, and as he had no desire to engage in a war on land without their help, or to commence naval operations without being able to overwhelm, at the same time, his enemy on land, he was anxious to put off the war for another year.⁶ Charles II., on the other hand, was ready

¹ *S. P., France*, Oct. 1, 1670.

² *Ibid.* Sept. 24, 1670.

³ Mignet, iii. 225.

⁴ *S. P., France*, Oct. 4, 1670.

⁵ *Ibid.* Oct. 1, 1670.

⁶ Mignet, iii. 240.

to begin war, especially as his demands for money from Parliament had been made and granted on that foundation. Perwich writes in November 1670, 'Wee are most glad to hear that the great organ our Parliament is tuned to soe perfect a harmony with his Ma^{tie}'s will & occasions,' and 'it gives us a great reputation abroad.'¹

Louis succeeded in postponing the declaration of war for a more convenient moment, and the second treaty was concluded with England in December 1670, no mention being made of Charles's intention to declare himself a Roman Catholic.² After securing the alliance of England Louis turned his attention towards the princes of Germany, to secure either their co-operation or neutrality. Sweden, too, must be bought off from the Triple Alliance, and to effect this, Louis offered 480,000 *écus* in place of the 200,000 *écus* which Spain owed that country. Louis's offer, however, came too late. Sweden had no longer any inducement to co-operate with France, as Spain had paid the portion of the subsidy then due.³

In January 1671 everybody in France, except the King and the Ministry, was 'mad for war.' Perwich remarks that 'if there be no warre a great part of the nobility will be ruined, being already plunged in debt for the equipage the *pique d'honneur* forced them to make the last year.'⁴

During this crisis Louis employed every possible means to obtain money. He demanded 'an advance of eight millions of his farmers, which many think they are not able to furnish him with, notwithstanding which, here is now a-working for his service a whole set of gold plate, besides great massy silver tables & stands.'⁵

By his spies he was kept well informed of the troops that

¹ *S. P., France*, November $\frac{5}{16}$, 1670.

² Mignet, iii. 241.

³ *Ibid.* iii. 284.

⁴ *S. P., France*, April 11, 1671.

⁵ *Ibid.* July 25, 1671.

were being raised in Holland. From a letter of July 25, 1671, we learn that 'one Mr Choupe, at present in Holland & in a pretended disgrace here, is there only, being an able engeneer & a cunning man, to give what intelligence he can of that countrey.'

Already the United Provinces had made a final attempt to obtain a closer alliance with England, but Charles wanted to know what subsidies they would be willing to give if he helped in a war solely to the interest of Holland. Monsieur Boreel, the Dutch Ambassador, answered that it was their intention to throw themselves 'entre les bras de la France' if they found that Charles was unwilling to tighten the alliance.¹ Repulsed on the part of England, the States-General turned their attention towards the Empire and princes of Germany, and endeavoured to form a league in which the Dukes of Brandenburg and Luxembourg, the Emperor, the Electors of Mayence and Trèves would join with the object of defending Holland and the Spanish Low Countries.²

In December 1671 the States-General sent over an ambassador to Louis to desire his Majesty to declare his intentions and 'to offer satisfaction in all the just causes of complaint his M. Xtian Ma^{ty} may have ag^t them, particularly notionating the late differences in point of commerce. The Dutch having hitherto huffed very much, it does the more encourage these people when they find them trucking with overtures of satisfaction.' The Dutch Ambassador appears to have had great difficulty in obtaining an audience;³ Louis postponed it from day to day, and two months later Perwich writes to Lord Arlington that 'the Dutch Ambassador thinks of taking leave within a few days, hee having been told that his stay here signified no other than ye amusing the officers.'⁴

¹ Mignet, iii. 633.

² *Ibid.* iii. 633.

³ *S. P., France*, December 24, 1671.

⁴ *Ibid.* February 1672.

Meanwhile Charles II. was playing a double game, for Perwich mentions that 'the Dutch Amb^r hath written out of England that ye King of England had satisfied him as to his adhering to the League, with other circumstances of friendship.'¹

A rumour had reached Louis that the Queen of Spain intended to help 'the Hollanders if they should be attacqued, in which case the French Ambassador is ordered to declare that his most Xtian Ma^{ty} does withdraw his *parole donnée* wherein he engaged himself not to act against the monarchy of Spaine during the King's minority.'² It had also been reported that the Dutch, 'to engage the Spaniards more vigorously in their party, had promised not to treat with France unless that country rendered up all the late conquests of 1667 to the Spaniards,' an engagement which Perwich imagines to have been 'rather a bravado than a probable matter.'³

A good deal of information is given in these letters about the levying of troops in France, the disposal of the commands, and the disposition of the armies for the different campaigns. There is an interesting account of a dispute which arose about the position of Marshal de Turenne. Louis had given him the general command of the army, but Marshals Bellefonds and Humières refused to receive orders from him on the plea that it was 'an innovation on the great authority of Marshalls of France, since they never were commanded by other than a *connestable*, which charge being suppressed, it would derogate much from their priviledges to obey one of their brethren.' Their answer much offended the King, and they were ordered either to agree or 'to see his face no more.'⁴

War was declared between England and Holland on March 28,

¹ *S. P., France*, December 19, 1671.

² *Ibid.* December 26, 1671.

³ *Ibid.* January 2, 1672.

⁴ *Ibid.* April 23, 1672.

1672,¹ and between France and Holland on April 6 of the same year. From this date onwards the letters are full of the details of the campaign of 1672, and the progress of the English and French armies is minutely recorded.

On August 1 Louis returned to St. Germain, 'being somewhat sensible of his fatigue.'² A triumphal entry into Paris was proposed, but the King would not agree to it, alledging that 'hee would not putt the nobility to the charges they must necessarily bee att to appear in such a solemnity, besides that the enemys had defended themselves too *laschly*, and that his victories had cost him too little for to boast of them.'³

From the month of August 1672 to May 1673 it is probable that Perwich was absent from his post, for he writes to Lord Arlington on May 6, 1673, 'I am not yet soe well settled as to come into the old track of intelligence.'

New supplies of money and troops had been raised for the King's second campaign. Vast sums were raised by a declaration that no process at law or other acts in writing should be brought into any court of justice 'without paying for the prepared parchment and paper with the flower *de luce* mark.'⁴ This tax was rejected in the provincial Parliaments, and a suggestion was put forward that it should be extended to whatever paper should be used, not only on proceedings at law.

An imposition was also laid on the periwig makers, but Perwich writes: 'A tumultuous body of four hundred of their wives hath been to demand *misericorde* of Mons^r Colbert, whereupon their shops are suffered to be opened again.'⁵ In a letter dated October 7, 1673, he mentions that Colbert 'hath been feeling the pulse of the custome farmers for the advance of 14 millions, but

¹ Mignet, iii. 703.

² *S. P., France*, August 6, 1672.

³ *Ibid.* August 14, 1672.

⁴ *Ibid.* August 5, 1673.

⁵ *Ibid.* August 30, 1673.

they complained even of their farms, because of the deadness of trade, much contrary to their being able to comply with so great an advance. However they are endeavouring by their credit to raise it, giving their farm as security for the payment by degrees.¹

Before the end of the year 1673 the French were anxious for peace, and according to Perwich 'would be glad to have one on equal terms.'²

In October, on the King's return from his campaign, 'the severall bodys of Parliament' went to Versailles 'to compliment him,' and seized the opportunity to complain of the taxes and 'the deadnesse of trade, begging mercy upon ye apprehension that more will bee put upon them, with many wishes that his Maj^{ty} would make a Peace & then take off ye tax upon paper.'³

Meanwhile, in England, Charles II. had found his position most grave. The war had been preceded by events which caused intense indignation—the stoppage of the Exchequer in 1672, an urgent Declaration of Indulgence suspending all penal laws against Nonconformists, and the failure of Admiral Holmes to seize a rich Dutch fleet sailing up the Channel in order to procure funds for the war.

By the spring of 1673 the belligerents were willing to treat for peace, and the mediation of Sweden was accepted. A Congress was arranged at Cologne to which the Earl of Sunderland, Sir Leoline Jenkins, and Sir Joseph Williamson were appointed as representatives from England.⁴

The rapid success of the French had caused much uneasiness in Sweden, where it was considered that the ruin of the United Provinces would leave the English sole masters of the sea, and it was on this account that Swedish mediation was offered.

¹ *S. P.*, France, October 7, 1673.

² *Ibid.* October 18, 1673.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Mignet, iv. 141.

France and England appeared to accept the offer and stated their demands, but the Dutch deputies were so much disconcerted at their nature that they declined a conference and eventually decided to continue the war. Attempts were, however, made in vain to draw off England from the French alliance and to conclude a private treaty, but Charles replied 'qu'il ne ferait jamais de paix que d'accord avec le roi de France.'¹

However in February of 1674 peace was concluded between England and Holland, rumours of which had reached the French Court some days before it was actually concluded, for Perwich writes to Lord Arlington on February 20, 1674, 'We are impatient till our letters come from England, these people giving us a *mauvaise mine* upon a surmise they have of our concluding a peace with the Dutch with the excluding of France.'

Between March and November 1674 Perwich was evidently again away from Paris, and from this point the correspondence falls off considerably.

The remaining letters are chiefly concerned with the investigation of the curious conspiracy of the Chevalier de Rohan in the year 1674, a political plot in which Sir Joseph Williamson appears to have taken a special interest, and concerning which Perwich was commissioned to obtain all the information possible. The details which he gives in the letter of January 23, 1675, were obtained from the best possible source—'from one who assisted att his *procès*,' though the matter was supposed to have been kept a profound secret.

Four persons were concerned in this plot—Louis de Rohan, better known as the Chevalier de Rohan, who had incurred the hatred of Louis XIV. (it was said for insulting him at a card party); La Tréaumont, a retired officer; the Marquise de Villars;

¹ Mignet, iv. 147.

and Van den Enden, a Dutch schoolmaster who had left Holland on account of the persecution of the Protestants and for some years had been keeping a school in Paris. With the help of these confederates De Rohan wrote an anonymous letter to the Count de Monterey, at that time the Spanish Governor of Flanders, intimating that 'Normandy was very much dispos'd to a revolt, and y^t if hee would send a fleet with 6 thousand men, & armes for twenty thousand wth necessaries for sieges & two millions of *livres*, that there was a greate man (meaning Rohan) who would engage himself upon ye assurance of thirty thousand crownes pension and 20,000 crowns for Truaumont' to put Quillebœuf and another maritime town into his possession, 'and wth the succour, expected to master all Normandy, in so much y^t they might come strait to Versailles without passing river or bridge.'

The plot was discovered, and Perwich gives an interesting account of the manner in which the conspirators were executed in Paris.¹

It is the pleasing duty of the Editor of these Anglo-French despatches to acknowledge the great assistance which has been rendered by Monsieur J. Lemoine, chief of the Archives of the Ministry of War at Paris, in the elucidation of the persons and places mentioned in the text. Without the generous co-operation of this distinguished expert many of the obscure allusions in these despatches must have remained unsolved by an English editor. As it is, the space at the disposal of her collaborator and herself has permitted merely the briefest elucidations of the chief difficulties encountered in the following pages.

M. B. C.

July 1903.

¹ For the result of recent exhaustive researches on this subject among the State Papers and criminal archives in Paris see *Revue Hebdomadaire*, December 1898 to January 1899, and an article in the *Athenæum*, February 4, 1899.

Erratum.

Page 69, line 7, for *Vif* read *d'If*.

THE
DESPATCHES OF WILLIAM PERWICH
ENGLISH AGENT IN PARIS

1669 TO 1677.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : April 4^d, '69.

Yesterday morning my L^d Amb^r¹ had a private Audience of his Ma^{ty}, at w^{ch} time an expresse from Madrid brings news that Dⁿ Juan² hath at length prevayled against his enemys in that Court, & y^t y^e President of Castille³ was out of the Councell & Dⁿ Juan's Creatures put into offices; this change hath putt this Court into various thoughts; some & y^e most considerable seem troubled at it becaus in case of y^e death of y^e young King⁴ Dⁿ Juan may bee made King, y^e Queen⁵ being inclined to resigne her Regency unto him already; others imagine to themselves that the King may reap some advantage by these disorders in their Councell. On Sunday the M. Xtian K^s went to Colomb to a review of about 3,000 good Horse, where hee was very curious & exact in viewing every particular man & horse; some of these Troops were newly come out of Garrison.

¹ Ralph Montagu succeeded his father as 3rd Baron Montagu in 1683; created Earl in 1685 and Duke in 1705.

² Don Juan José (1629-1679), the natural son of Philip IV. of Spain and general of the Spanish forces.

³ Dom Diego Sarmiento y Valladares, Bishop of Oviedo, was President of the Council from May 1668 to Nov. 1669.

⁴ The King of Spain, Charles II.

⁵ Marie Anne, daughter of Ferdinand III. of Austria.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : April 7th, '69, S.N.

Fresher news comes still dayly from Madrid of the grand revolutions there of Dⁿ Juan's being made Head of y^e Councell for the people's grievances, Captain Gen^l of Flanders, &c ; Mons^r de Villier,¹ the French King's Envoye at Madrid, had made a body of all the French there & opposed Dⁿ Juan if the Councell had not speedily prevented itt. However the M. Xtian K^g has sent his orders to his Minister there to offer unto the Catholique Queen all assistance against any attempt that shall bee made upon the Royall family.

My L^d Ambr is come to his house in the Rue de Richilieu, w^{ch} is much disliked by him, & has taken one by the Queen Mother's, l'Hostel de Mons^r de Roquelaure,² w^{ch} will make amends, but not bee ready in two months. I am very ambitious of being employed in y^r service here.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : April 13th, 1669, S.N.

Inclosed goe the Edicts it men^cōns, w^{ch} in the future shall bee constantly sent you, & if you have not the Gazette *à la main* from other hands that shall never fayle you ; upon the least intimation that you have y^m not I shall also send you the severall treatyes between England & France since 1606, w^{ch} are all new printed in French. Your directions upon the inclosed Catalogue of books shall bee punctually observed & y^e Prints sent weekly to you. It would bee some help if I could understand the names of all our Consuls in y^e severall parts ; if I shall not bee able to learne them all here I must beseech you to cause them to be transmitted hither. My L^d wonders they have not yet, as they ought, payd their duty to him, but must bee put in mind of it.

The Queen Mother³ is again relapsed & was blooded 4 times in as many days this week, w^{ch} hinders my L^d of St Albans⁴ from prosecuting his intended journey for England for a while.

¹ Pierre, Marquis de Villars.

² Gaston Jean Baptiste, Duc de Roquelaure, 1617–83. Created Duke of Roquelaure 1652. Took a prominent part in the conquest of Franche-Comté, 1668, and that of Holland (1672). Appointed Governor of Guienne, 1676.

³ Henrietta Maria of France, wife of Charles I.

⁴ Henry Jermyn, Duke of St. Albans, Lord Chamberlain of the Queen Mother.

Yesternight a priest was stabbed in his bed. It's thought a piece of jealousy promoted his end.

Next week this King sits in Parliam^t in his high seat of justice, where (among other things) it's sayd he will mention the making a Law about marriages, that noe person shall give above 10,000 Crowns with his daughter in marriage (with some provisoes, I believe, of Paris & *Nobles de France*); yet this shall take no hold upon heiresses.¹ This is a thing talkt of, how certain I cannot affirme to you. Hee is also making a dismall ransack in his Finances, & winds & turnes all things inside out, as you will see in y^e edict about the Officers of Justice.²

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : April $\frac{7}{17}$ th, '69.

His Ex^{ce}, I think, intends to make his publique entry on Wednsday next in Easter Week, w^{ch} I am persuaded will bee very magnificent by reason of the great numbers of English gentry here.

Last night my L^d Mordaunt³ arrived here. The King goes to Versailles on Munday & returns on Thursday. The Queen Mother, God bee thanked, is recovered, & my L^d of S^t Albans will set forwards his intended journey about the middle of next week.

The French apprehend much that Van Beuning⁴ is to goe Amb^r for England, whom they have, as they say, great reason to hate, his image being in Holland engraven on a meddall, Josuah like, stopping the sun's course.⁵ By the next I shall bee able to send

¹ This law was evidently never passed.

² Edicts on this subject were issued in March and August 1669.

³ John, Viscount Mordaunt, brother of Henry, 2nd Earl of Peterborough.

⁴ Conrad van Beuninghen, Dutch Ambassador to France.

⁵ After the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, 1668, by which Louis XIV. ceased his invasion of Franche-Comté, the Dutch offended him by having their coins re-struck, one attributing to them the right of having defended kings, re-established the liberty of the seas, and pacified Europe, and another representing Van Beuninghen as Joshua stopping the sun. The words supposed to be engraved on the medal were, 'In conspectu meo stetit sol.' Voltaire says, 'Cette médaille n'exista jamais. Il est vrai que les Etats avaient fait frapper une médaille dans laquelle ils avaient exprimé tout ce que la république avait fait de glorieux : Assertis legibus, emendatis sacris, adjutis, defensis, conciliatis regibus, vindicata marium libertate, stabilita orbis Europae quiete' (*Siècle de Louis XIV*, vol. i. p. 389).

you some reflections made here upon the Tripple League¹ by an indifferent hand, w^{ch} yet is too long for my transcribing now.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: April 20th, '69.

Yesterday att Charenton (as it was expressed) 'ceux de la religion avoient grand Jûne² pour implorer l'assistance divine sur le pitoyable estat de leurs eglises et de la démolition de leurs [temples] dans toutes les provinces.'

Here are lately some taxes imposed by the magistrates of Paris upon candells, w^{ch} before were sold for 8 sols the lb, shall bee sold but at 6, because (as I believe) the Chandlers grow rich; in the like manner beef & wood; ye latter, that is worth 13 francs, shall bee set at 10 only.

The King has caused a vast quantity of corne to bee bought in Bourgogne to bee embarked on the duke of Beaufort's³ fleet. Mons^r Colbert, as I am informed, 'a esté fort chagrin' & discomposed of late, & has suspended 58 officers that were designed & nominated supernumeraries aboard the s^d fleet.

From Warsaw wee hear that the son of the great Duke of Muscovy⁴ is instructing him in the Catholiquisme, pretending still to the Crowne of Poland, & that the Arch Bpp of Guesne⁵ has caused a libell to bee burnt ag^t the Prince,⁶ w^{ch} the emissaries of the other Pretender[s]⁷ had spread abroad.

From Madrid the 3rd Curr^t, wee are advised that a Regim^t is formed there of 600 men for the King's guards & y^e Marq^s of Ayetonne⁸ is their Collonel. Dⁿ Juan is still at Guadalajara,

¹ The Triple Alliance, 1668, between England, Holland, and Sweden.

² *I.e.* jeûne.

³ François de Vendôme, Duc de Beaufort, son of César de Vendôme and grand-son of Henry IV. In 1669 he was sent by Louis XIV. to help the Venetians, attacked by the Turks in the island of Candia, and was killed at Candia in August of the same year.

⁴ Alexius Michaelowitz, son of Michael Theodorowitz. Died in 1676.

⁵ Nicolaus Prazmoovski, Archbishop of Gnesen 1666-1673 (see *Gazette de France*, 1669, No. 49, p. 367).

⁶ Theodore Alexowitz, son of the above.

⁷ The Prince of Nieubourg, the Duke of Lorraine, and the Prince of Condé.

⁸ D. Miguel Francisco de Moncada, 5th Marquis of Aitona. Died in 1674.

expecting orders to kisse ye Queen's hands; another Jesuit is made Vice Inquisitour of y^e kingdome. The Pope has sanctified with his blessing 2 standards, one for Dⁿ Vincenzo,¹ who commands y^e gallies designed for Candia, & y^e other for M^r du Beaufort, w^{ch} hee has received with a quantity of medalls, (also blessed), to bee distributed among y^e French officers. Cont de St Paul² is at Rome & saying y^t hee has a desire to returne for Candia with y^e French succour, M^r de Bourlement³ gave him a L^{re} from the King commanding his returne to Paris; the succor for Candia will goe hence⁴ the 15th of May. The King of Spain is very well.

Mess^{rs} le Parlem^t have liberty to assemble & make their remonstrances to y^e king about y^e preservation of their Privileges, his Ma^{ty} being almost obliged to cancell y^e edict hee made contrary to y^e advice of le Tellier⁵ & de Lyonne.⁶

Le Comte de Schomberg⁷ has married Mad^{le} d'Aumale d'Aucourt.⁸ The King calls for an accompt of 17 or 18 millions 'que les maistres de Comptes ont pris des derniers Royaux plus que leur estat deub d'espicés.' 'Le S^r de Berrier⁹ n'est plus Oeconome de l'Abbaye de St Germain des Prés, c'est M^r Paschau,' who yesterday dislodged all y^e Duke of Verneuil's¹⁰ domestique servants; it's sayd it is to keep y^e place ready for y^e reception of y^e king of Poland,¹¹ to whom this King has given that Royall Abby.

¹ Don Vincenzo Rospigliosi, nephew of Pope Clement IX.

² Charles Paris d'Orléans, Comte de St. Pol, later Duc de Longueville (1649-1672).

³ Louis d'Anglure de Bourlémont.

⁴ 'Embarqued' interlined in MS.

⁵ Michel Le Tellier, 1603-1685, Secretary of State for War. After the death of Mazarin he became a Minister of State, and on the death of D'Aligre in 1677 was made Chancellor.

⁶ Hugues de Lionne succeeded Mazarin as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

⁷ Frédéric Armand, Comte de Schomberg (1618-1690), son of Hans Meynard Schomberg. He became marshal in 1675.

⁸ Suzanne d'Aumale, dame d'Aucourt, his second wife.

⁹ Louis Berryer, secretary of Jean Baptiste Colbert. Perwich was evidently wrongly informed, as Berryer retained his position until 1673, when he was succeeded by M. Pellisson.

¹⁰ Gaston Henri de Bourbon, natural son of Henry IV. and Catherine Henriette de Balzac-Entragues (1601-1682). He married Charlotte Séguier, eldest daughter of Pierre Séguier, Chancellor of France.

¹¹ John Casimir, who resigned the crown of Poland, September 1668, and retired to France. See p. 7, n. 8.

‘M^r Colombel, Cons^{er} au Parlement, avoit porté à l’espargné la demission de sa charge, mais on luy dit qu’il n’y avoit point encore d’ordre de les recevoir.’

M^r de Frenoy has gott y^e Gouvernem^t of Dunkirke & has sold his Lieut^{cy} of Herdin¹ for $\frac{m^e}{40}$. The K^s has given to the Abbé de Rourlemont² the Bpprick of La Vaur, to the Abbé of Tressan³ that of Vabres, & y^t of Dignes to y^c Abbé of Biscorat.⁴

It was not, (as its said), y^e Chev^r de Bourlement that fought on Saturday, but one M^r de Bourlement des Moulins, who quarrelled at play with M^r le Champ-Fleury; at night his body was enterred, but a mason discovered it & y^e Lieutenant criminel caused it to be put in the Chastellet.⁵

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Ap. 24th, '69.

During these Holy days wee can neither have our Letters from England, tho’ they are due to us three days since, nor any news from hence to send you, all their time having been spent here in their celebrating their festivalls & their Ma^{tie}s visiting each Church in Paris. My Lord Amb^r makes his publick Entry to-morrow with about 50 Gentlemen that will bee in his Trayne, 6 pages & 12 footmen. Little M^r Kirk⁶ is soe tormented with an ague that it makes everybody pittie him, hee being the most sweet & well bred child I ever saw, yet tells mee hee has noe desire to returne for England. I make bold to tell you this that you may please to acquaint Madam Kirke with it & that all care imaginable is taken of him. My L^d S^t Albans goes this day for England, & with him M^r Gumbledon, who has made a profitable voyage of it, & I believe in 6 weeks has gotten 2,000[£].

¹ Hesdin.

² Perwich evidently means Louis d’Anglure de Bourlémont. The bishopric of Lavaur was vacant from 1668 to 1671.

³ Ludovicus de la Vergne de Montenard de Tressan.

⁴ Jean de Vintimille du Luc.

⁵ Prison of the ‘Châtelet de Paris.’

⁶ Probably the son of Colonel Percy Kirk [Kirke], who married Lady Mary Howard, daughter of George, Earl of Suffolk.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Ap. 27th, '69.

Since my last to you his Ex^{cc} made his Publique entry on y^e 21st, & yesterday had his publique audience with the King, Queen, Dauphin,¹ Duke d'Anjou² & his sister,³ & this morning is going to Monsieur⁴ & Madame⁵ to the same purpose, soe that it will make this the shorter. According to my L^d Arlington's order I am making a journall of all the Ceremoniall part, w^{ch} shall goe by the next post. It is enough at present I tell you his coaches followed the King's, and the Queen's, &c^a, went after his, (I mean the Princes of the blood).

The moment brings mee y^{rs} of the 12th of April for the inclosed list of consulls.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: May 1st, '69.

On Munday this Court went to S^t Germain's, where the King makes a generall muster of all his Army, with the ceremony of great gunns in the field, & that night hee went hence my L^d Rochester⁶ was robbed in a chayse (of some 20 Pistolls & his perewig). Herewith goes a particular of all that passed at the *Entrée* & Aud^{cc}. The discourse of the P^{cc} of Condé's⁷ being King of Poland⁸ is hotly renewed, tho' wee hear the P^{cc} of Muscouvy will have an army of near 100^m men to second his pretentions

¹ Louis the Dauphin (1661-1711).

² Philip, Duke of Anjou (1668-1671).

³ Maria Theresa (1667-1672).

⁴ Philip, Duke of Orleans, second son of Louis XIII.

⁵ Henriette Anne, daughter of Charles I. 'Le fils aîné du Roi s'appelait "Monseigneur" ou "Dauphin," le frère du Roi "Monsieur," la sœur ou la belle-fille du Roi "Madame," la fille de Monsieur "Mademoiselle" (Duruy, *Hist. de France*, ii. 299).

⁶ Lawrence Hyde, Earl of Rochester, 1641-1711.

⁷ Louis II., the 'Grand,' son of Henry II., Prince of Condé.

⁸ On September 16, 1668, John Casimir resigned the crown of Poland and retired to France. There were three candidates for the vacant throne—the Prince of Condé, supported by John Sobieski; the Prince of Neubourg, supported by Louis XIV.; and Charles of Lorraine, the candidate of Austria. The choice, however, fell upon Michael Korybut Wisniowieski, the son of Jeremiah Michael, Duke of Wisniowieski. He died in 1673, and was succeeded in 1674 by John Sobieski. (See *The Story of the Nations*, 'Poland,' by W. R. Morfill, pp. 150-154.)

thereunto. My L^d Amb^r has not yet had publique Aud^{ce} of Madam, by reason of her keeping her bed for a week after a fall shee had on her terras. Yesterday the Venetian Amb^r gave his Ex^{cc} a visitt: that of Savoy will not doe it till hee know that hee shall bee treated as Amb^r from a *Teste Couronné*.

From Warsaw we hear that in the raising of a crosse beam for the place for ye Dyett a white pigeon fixed on it, & thence flew to the Palais R^l, and returned again to the beam, w^{ch} they interpret to bee a good prognostick for y^e P^{ce} of Condé being of the *Ordre* of y^e Holy Ghost, w^{ch} H. 3 King of Poland gave his ancestors.

The Suisses have been lately bought off from their intentions of creeping into the 3ple League, yet soe that they will not bee barred from selling men to y^e Span^{ds} for their defense, but not offense.

Are much concerned here at the Hollanders tampering with the P^{ces} of the Rhine as destructive to their Bordeaux trade.

Its also said that the Queen Regent of Spain has by her ministers offered to pay Sweden the subsidy money if it will signe the guaranty, which it refused for some reasons that render themselves obvious.¹

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: May 11th, '69.

Yesterday his Ex^{cc} returned a visit to the Venetian Amb^r. In discourse with his Scrye hee gives us noe ground to believe that of the Grand Seigneur's² death, but with more certaynty told mee letters from the Levant advised them that the G^d Segnior having sent his orders to Constantinople for the strangling his brothers, the people mutinyed & opposed the execution, & the Janizaries themselves that were left to guard the place sided with them, sending a message in great hast to the Emp^r³ that if hee came not immediately to his capitall citty they should bee obliged to appease the multitude by making one of his brothers Emperour.

It is believed, tho' the Amb^r here & his people will not owne itt, that the Venetian Amb^r is sent prisoner by the Grand Vizier⁴ to

¹ Spain had promised to pay Sweden large sums of money to keep her army in Germany and to prevent the Pays-Bas from being attacked (Mignet, vol. iii. p. 112).

² Mahomet IV., Sultan of Turkey.

³ Leopold I. of Austria (1640-1705).

⁴ Kiuperli, as renowned in Turkey as Turenne was in France.

Canea, because hee seemed not to incline to the proposition made by the Vizier for peace in surrendering Candia.

Orders were lately sent & speedily put in execution offering from the King to all the workemen & labourers that are now employed in fortifying the new conquest places,¹ in number about 20,000, that if they will engage themselves in his service in case any warre should happen with Spain, or the young King dye, that then they shall continue as souldiers under the same pay they now are, w^{ch} is much more than is ordinary allowed to the militia, w^{ch} shall bee p^d them weekly; upon default whereof they may freely retire from the service & not bee obliged to serve more than one *Campaigna*, of w^{ch} proposition they have all most chearfully accepted of, as they say here. Thus you see, S^r, no stone is left unturned wherby the King may with conveniency increase his strength, & tho' these men are unexpert for souldiers they serve to fill up trenches, & upon their backs hee may ride in triumph.

100,000 pounds st. are remitted from this Court into Poland to the Bp. of Bezières,² the French Amb^r, to bee distributed in gayning electory voyces for the Prince.³ Mons^r de Louvoy⁴ will have a stately house built in 2 months upon the ground the King has given him at S^t Germain, 1,400 men being dayly at worke. In like manner most of the noblemen will follow his example upon like proportions of land for that purpose.

Just as I am writing this 2 Suisses are marching by to bee beheaded for killing a man about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour since. I pray God keep us all from such cruell blades & hands.

The Venetian Scribe told mee also, when I sayd that ther was $\frac{m}{100}$ livres found in the *Troncs des Eglises* for the Candia succour, that there was but $\frac{m}{40}$, & that when the Amb^r had recomended to the Arch Bpp⁵ & principall Ecclesiastiques of this place to give a noble & generous example to y^e people by their owne liberall

¹ Those taken in Flanders in the campaign of 1667. This campaign had alarmed Holland, because the Pays-Bas formed their barrier on the side of France (Mignet, vol. ii. p. 484).

² Pierre de Bonzy.

³ The Prince de Condé.

⁴ François Michel Le Tellier, Marquis de Louvois (1639–1691).

⁵ Hardouin de Beaumont de Péréfixe, Archbishop of Paris, formerly tutor to Louis XIV.

contributions, they replied they had thought they had done the Republic a great service in minding the people to bee charitable, not that they themselves thought to bee obliged any way to be a president to y^m.

In Poland they expect 3 Amb^{rs} from Muscovy, who are on their march with a trayne of 3,000 gentlemen, 2,000 men in livery, & vast sums of money, that they come to assist at the election of ye Prince of Muscouvy, & that y^e Zzaar his father has $\frac{m}{80}$ men on the frontiers, as they apprehend, to compell them to itt.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: May 12th, '69.

It is talked here with much secrecy y^t the troops will not goe for Candia at last, & that from the begining this King raised them under that Xtian pretence only to serve him upon another occasion without giving jealousy to the world, they being in a good station in case any warre happen with Spain (or as some will have it to take Sardaigne ¹ for y^e French K^s.)

From thence wee hear the young King is secretly very ill & that Dⁿ Juan's interests increase.

Are not at all pleased here with the news from Poland.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: May $\frac{5}{15}$, '69.

On Munday last my Lord Ambassadour went to S^t Germaines, & I know not whether he will bee time enough back to write by this post. It's thought the Court will not stay long there, by reason of the paynt, w^{ch} hath somewhat indisposed the Queen. The news from Candia has somewhat startled these people, who verily believe at this instant that it is taken, altho' the Venetian Amb^r going to S^t Germaines seemed to bee much pleased, saying hee had very good news to impart to the King. And wheras the inclosed sayes the Knights of Maltha were *demeurés*, &c, it is by others more likely affirmed that they were only wounded, having ventered out beyond belief & beaten the Turks off with a great carnage. On Munday 3 Suisses were carryed to the place of execution, where they were condemned to fight with one another

¹ Sardinia.

untill two of them were killed, & the survivour to bee saved, but were by the King's order reprieved. These were they that murdered their Lieuten^t last week.

I humbly desire you would bee pleased to let mee know what ground ther is for a report (contrary to all reason & interest) that the Span^{ds} intended to seize on all English effects in their ports, upon what they pretend to have suffered in Porto Bell,¹ &c, because some friends of mine in this countrey, that have considerable interests in Spain at this time, have been alarmed from England & would gladly know how to take their measures by an assurance of the true source of such a report.

My Lord is just returned from St Germaines & bids mee desire you that you will bee pleased to learne of my L^d Holles² where the Prince of Condé received him at his first visit, whether at the coach or the stayres &c, & how hee received the Prince when hee came to visit him, all w^{ch} his Ex^{cc} recomends to y^r particular care, because hee will not know how to proceed untill such time as y^r letter shall give him light.

On Munday morning a person came with great assurance & confidence to tell mee that letters from Toulon were arrived that say how a Bassa with a squadron & abundance of wealth was come into that Road, & rendred himselfe under the Duke of Beaufort's protection; a great storme from the G^d Seign^r threatening his death caused his flight. I tell it you as I heard it and you may believe it if confirmed.

The succors for Candia are allmost ready & the beginning of the next month will see them under sayle, although people in the world believe hee never intended really to send any thither.

We have had no letters from Holland these 14 days.

From Spain it's said Dⁿ Juan is creating more trouble, w^{ch} I believe this Court would willingly foment, the discontents between this King & the *Condestable* growing dayly.

Yesterday two persons were apprehended for thievery, & in the arrest they resisted, & one was mortally wounded, condemned immediately, & hanged for fear hee should dye unpunished; the other will overtake him in a day or two.

¹ Porto Bello.

² Denzil Holles [Hollis], second son of the Earl of Clare. He had acted as Ambassador Extraordinary at the Court of France and Plenipotentiary at the Conference at Breda.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : May 18th, '69, S.N.

Yours of the 3^d I shewed to my L^d Ambassadour, especially what concerned y^e manuscripts.¹ His Ex^{ce} told mee hee would take order in itt. I believe that through the misunderstandings between him & M^r du Moulin² it hath been hitherto neglected, neither can I tell where they are or to whom to apply myselfe to know their lowest price, having very often minded M^r du Moulin of it, telling him how often you were pleased to commit the same to my sollicitation, & from time to time he told mee hee had written but had no answer or order about them from my L^d Arlington.

Letters from Madrid say that the King is better, tho' at the same time it's rumoured about the citty that hee cannot live much longer (or, to say the truth, the French would not have him doe so); that the Queen has been lately indisposed, & called the Card^{ll} d'Arragon³ to Court, who together with ye Pope's Nuncio have been with the Queen *moyenner* in Dⁿ Juan's behalfe, who is still at Guadalaxart,⁴ discontented at the non execution of the Ar^{tes}.

They say also that the citty of Grenada upon the *brouilleries* at Madrid had putt y^mselves in armes, & had been soe 4 days, in favour of Dⁿ Juan, during w^{ch} time the King's officers kept themselves incognitis: but hearing of the agreem^t between the Queen & him they layd downe their arms. The Duke d'Albe,⁵ upon Père Nitard's⁶ retirement out of Spain, is also come into y^e Queen's par^{ty} again, alleaging hee went to Dⁿ Juan's, to y^e end that father might bee exiled, w^{ch} being done, &c.

The advice from Lisbon of the French having taken Sⁿ Domingo is soe important that it needs confirmation. From Sicily y^e freshest letters say that the flames that gush out of Mount Gibel⁷ are soe violent that they have brought the citty of Cantone⁸ under

¹ See letter from Peter du Moulin (*S.P., France*) dated June $\frac{9}{18}$, 1669.

² Peter du Moulin, Minister Extraordinary for Charles II.

³ D. Pascual d'Aragon y Cordoba (1625-1677), son of D. Enrique d'Aragon, Duc de Cardona, and brother of D. Pedro d'Aragon.

⁴ Guadalajara.

⁵ D. Antonio Alvarez de Toledo, 7th Duc d'Albe. Died in 1690.

⁶ Eberhard von Neidhart. See footnote, p. 27.

⁷ Mount Etna or Monte Gabello.

⁸ Catania, on the east coast of Sicily.

their verge, burnt it & all the villages thereabouts, tho' y^e s^d citty is above 20 miles from the mountain; that the countrey is all ruined, & desolate. Mons^r du Louvoy is going to visit the fortifications of the *places conquises*.

By expresse from the Duke of Beaufort the King has learnt that 13 galleys were gone to sea to proceed towards Candia, & that some of the troops designed for its relief are on board them; that 7 French men-of-warre came from the Ponant into Thoulon, commanded by the S^r Gaboret;¹ that the Duke would suddainly follow the gallies with the rest of the forces that are at Thoulon; that a report is come thither from the Levant that y^e G^d Vizier, hearing of the troubles at Constantinople, had raised y^e siege & was imbarquing at the head of his Army to appease them.

The King has sent a declaration to have it verified in Parliam^t, w^{ch} are 59 Ar^{tes} about the Huguenots somewhat moderating the *Ordonnances* made ag^t them contrary to the Edict of Nantes.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: May 22^d, '69.

Herewith goes a letter from M^r du Moulin to my Lord Arlington, acquainting him that my L^d Amb^r has expressed a desire for him to returne to England & to receive his Lpp's orders thereupon. What ye Gazetier mentions of 4 or 500 women going for America voluntarily is false, becaus they are lewd strumpets gathered up by the officers of the citty & transported according to the law.

People begin to talke very high about the disputes with the *Connestable* & the likelihood of a breach with Spain, of w^{ch} the camp officers speak more assuredly, & have orders to thicken their severall troops with more men, to give noe such noyse abroad as publique levies would make.

The Brandenburg proposition ² of getting the crowne of Poland is confirmed & it's thought may succeed at the Dyett.

The King diverts himselfe dayly with the camp in giving orders & particular posts to his severall troops in order y^e siege of Candia, (a fort made there called soe), leather bullets & a thousand imper-

¹ Mathurin Gabaret.

² According to Ranke (*Memoirs of the House of Brandenburg*, i. 73), Frederick William, Elector of Brandenburg, twice refused the crown of Poland, because he would not desert the faith by which his salvation was assured.

tinencies being preparing for y^e defence & assault of ye place, y^e command of w^{ch} is not knowne whom the King will honour with.

I will learne ag^t y^e next post what y^e Gazettier means by a *rencontre* at y^e Bois de Bologne wherein Mad^{llo} de Monnerot was concerned, & ye particular of ye story w^{ch} hee calls fabilous.¹

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: May 25, '69.

Letters of Aprill 15th from Mons^r la Haye,² this King's Ambassadour with the Grand Seign^r, say that hee had att length prevayled with him to give him an Audience of *congé* at Larissa; that hee received very good satisfaction in all his demands, passe-ports given him, & was returned to Constantinople to embarque himselfe & familly on board the King's ships that attend him there; that his friends need not to apprehend any danger to his person, those people being affrayd to provoke the French King.

The Duke de Navaille³ is lately arrived att Toulon, who with the Duke de Beaufort is ready to embarque the latter end of this month, expecting only *les derniers ordres de sa Ma^{té}*. All y^e troops are ready, 20 men-of-warre & 13 gallys, wherof 3 gallions.

From Genes [Genoa] they say y^e Duke de St. Germain⁴ is dead, & that some of the noblemen are in armes at the head of 5,000 men to make themselves masters of y^e Isle.

The Cantons of Switzerland are much troubled att the French King's having sent 15 horsemen into Switzerland, from whence the S^r de Maillé,⁵ the King's resident there, had given information of the S^r Roux de Marsilly's⁶ being there, negotiating the bringing the Cantons into y^e 3ple League by discourses much to the disad-

¹ See letter dated May 25, 1669.

² Denis de La Haye, Sieur de Vantelet, Ambassador to Constantinople in 1669.

³ Philippe de Montault de Bénac, Duc de Navailles, 1619-1684. Married Mlle. de Neuillant, lady in waiting to the Queen of France. He was appointed in 1669 to command the forces sent to the help of Candia (under the Duke of Beaufort). He took part in the invasion of Franche-Comté in 1674. Marshal of France in 1675.

⁴ Viceroy of Sardinia.

⁵ The Sieur Mouslier was the resident of France in Switzerland at this period.

⁶ Claude Roux, Sieur de Marsilly. See Ludlow's *Memoirs*, ii. p. 409; Haag, *La France Protestante*, vol. ix.; and F. Ravaisson, *Archives de la Bastille*, vii. 305-332.

vantage of France, giving them very ill impressions of the French King's *gouvernement*, who was betrayed by a monk that kept him company & intercepted by y^e s^d horsemen, brought into France, & is expected at the Bastille. I believe you know y^e man. I'm sure I remember him in Eng^d.

Talke much here, according to their owne inclinations, of warres with Spain & the troubles already there by most of the nobility adhering to Dⁿ Juan.

I promised in my last to learne the story about Mad^l^l de Montenner,¹ mentioned in the paper Gazette, which lyes thus: Shee was this week to take the air in her coach by the Bois de Boulogne, where shee heard a dismall voyce lamenting in pittifulle termes, & being come nearer shee saw a man on the ground with his hands & eyes surveying the heavens. Shee asked him what discomposed him & took him into her coach, thinking to bring him to Paris, when hee told her many horrible things & predictions of troubles in this land, of y^e death of great men, &c., & immediately vanished out of y^e coach. Wee may choose whether wee will believe itt, but the foolish women & multitude talke more assuredly of it.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June 1st, '69.

This goes by one M^r Thomson, who promises to bee with you before the Post; hee is one of the persons concerned in the ships unduely seized by y^e widow of S^{ta} Crux.

My L^d Ambassadour desires you would please to send him the copie of the 3ple Alliance & guaranty, as well as the progresse of the Treaty of Commerce.²

The King & Queen are at Versailles, & all the Court seem to applaud the French Ambassad^r's proceedings with the P^{co} of Tuscanny,³ becaus, say they, hee being in conference with the Spannish Amb^r in the King's gallery, took noe notice of the French Amb^r when hee past by him.

As to the manuscripts, M^r du Moulin tells mee hee has order & will take care in them, & I believe will carry them himselfe.

Roux Marsilly has prudently declared hee had somewhat of

¹ The same as Madlle. de Monnerot (see letter dated May 22, 1669).

² Between England and France in 1669.

³ Ferdinand II., Grand Duke of Tuscany. Died in 1670.

importance to say, but it should bee to the King himselfe, w^{ch} may bee made means of respiting his processe &, as hee hopes, intercessions may bee made for him; but people talke so variously of him that I cannot tell whether hee ought to bee owned by any Prince.

Y^e Suisses have indeed the greatest ground to reclayme him as being taken on theirs. They have all his papers, w^{ch} speak much of the 3^{pl} Alliance; if they have noe other pretext of hanging him I know not whether they can lawfully for this, hee having been naturalised in Holland & taken in a privileged countrey.

Begin to talke here of high advantages this kingdome will have by the Treaty of Commerce now on foot, & are preparing *Ordonnances*, &c., about the transporting of corne, &c., by way of anticipation.

Talke again much in favor of the Prince of Condé, who some will say is allready chosen.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June 22, '69.

Att length wee have found y^e 3ple Alliance in Mons^r du Moulin's retirement.

Talk much of the Turkish Amb^r & his great trayne, but more of his businesse, speaking of a barbarous union ag^t the H. of Austria & consequently all Xtendome.¹

You see how ready the King is to pick any quarrell with the Dutch, as to say hee would give out letters of reprizall ag^t them for ill-usage a French ship had in the Indyees, before the States can know how the case stands, in order to the giving satisfaction.

I cannot believe what the Gazettier says of surceasing the 40fications in the Pays Conquis at the K^s of England's request, unles it bee that they have rendred those places so strong as not to need any addition. I am credibly informed most of them are already impregnable, & what cannot above 20 thousand doe? when they are payd weekly, who have been at worke all this & the last year?

¹ The Grand Vizier had concluded a treaty with the House of Austria most favourable to the Turks, by which he had arranged to keep peace for twenty years, but it was well known that he only awaited the fall of Candia before resuming his schemes against Italy and the Empire. (See Vehse's *Memoirs of the Court of Austria*, vol. ii. p. 23.)

I am endeavouring the getting y^e 'modell of the Louvre'¹ for you, it being worth y^r curiosity. There are some printed but none sold publiquely, & I suppose in the hands only of some Minister of State.

I am informed that there is a separate & secret Art^c between France & Holl^d, by w^{ch} the latter is not to pay but $\frac{1}{2}$ 50 sols per tun for all ships, &c., and I believe upon inquiry you may learne as much, tho' at y^e same time I know that y^c Dutch doe pay all as other strangers, & how to reconcile this it is left to y^r more pollite judgment.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June 26th, '69.

Letters out of Switzerland say that the Cantons are mett att Bade, & much incensed with the S^r Moglier [Muslier], the French Resident, for having had commerce with 4 inferiour Cantons, given them money without participating it among the rest; that there are many Agents from forreigne P^{ces} to bring them into the 3ple Alliance, and that if the French have any designe to prevent it, the King must send to them an Amb^r of quality to renew their *quon-dam* confederations. The Spaniards offer them great advantages, as the revenue of their saltpitts.

From the coast of Picardy the French hear with much dissatisfaction that this King, having given a free liberty to his subjects to transport corne into foreigne countreys, severall ships had lately been in England to vent their graneries, but found a prohibition against any such importation, because Eng^d was as abounding in corne as France, & soe are returned & lost their voyage.²

A merchant of Rouen was with mee yesterday, desiring to know of mee what measures hee is to take in the vent of his

¹ See *Comptes des Bâtimens du Roi sous le Règne de Louis XIV*, by Jules Guiffrey, vol. i.

² In the year 1667 Colbert made a treaty by which the duties on manufactured goods brought into France were doubled, amounting to nearly 80 per cent. of the value of the goods. This tax largely contributed to the war of 1672. It struck a heavy blow against Dutch trade, and no sooner had it been published than Van Beuninghen wrote to De Witt that they must defend their cloths. England retaliated by a tax on the importation of French wine, and prohibited the free importation of corn into England (Baschet, *Transcripts*, 'Ambassador Colbert to Monsieur Colbert,' September 12, 1669, and Clément, *Histoire de Colbert*, p. 296).

comodities there, because the French, upon the news of the Treaty of Commerce at London's levelling all customes, or at least abating them, will give him not a third part of what they offered before. I told him the French made use of that artifice onely for their owne advantage, & that it would bee a considerable time before the Treaty would bee finished & bear date. Hee says it is the case of all the Eng. Merch^{ts} there; the same thing, I believe, may bee reciprocally in London upon the same reason.

A vessell come lately to Thoulon from the Isles of Cerigo¹ give[s] a bad account of Candia, of dismall assaults, slaughters, & taking of fort S^t André. I would not send you the particulars, because it is not generally believed. Those of the 24th of Aprill from Candia say the sicknes rageth there & that they understand from y^e Turks camp that as soon as the French succors come, the Vizier will raise the siege & fight them if they land in the Isle. You will see by the list my L^d Amb^r sends by this post to my L^d Arlington what strength they are of, & how little able they will bee to fight such an Army the Vizier has under him.

A Courier from hence is gott to Thoulon & followed y^e Duc de Navailles with private orders, & it's talked of publicly that if the Peace with the Turks should happen to bee concluded, or any other reason for their not staying at Candia, they are to goe upon a secret designe.

Messina is in armes, as they are willing to believe here, & Dⁿ Juan stands upon his punctilioes of the case of y^e people in his private ambition.

[He] spoke on
y^e wheel some
things ag^t the
French King,
that they
stopped his
[mouth] with
a cloth.

I will not give you any account about Maszillye's wheel of his misfortune; you have it at large, &c^a. It's certayn it makes a great noyse & was by anticipation condemned by all the females for his barbarisme on himselfe,² saying, 'qu'il meurt, il n'y a plus à quoy.'

Though I don't doubt but you have seen the ceremony (when here) upon Midsummer Eve,³ I will venter to scratch out the other folio to tell you that it is the custome for the *Provost des Marchands*, in behalfe of the citizens, to present the gouvernour of Paris with a bonfire & fireworks. I had a good convenience of

¹ Off the coast of Morea.

² He had tried to commit suicide in prison. See *supra*, p. 14, n. 6.

³ This refers to the festival held on June 24, known as the 'Feux de joie de la Saint-Jean.'

seeing it. The Gouverneur,¹ Provost & Gownemen, with *flambeaux* lighted, walked round the pile in procession, a noyse of trumpetts & other musick added much to the ceremony.

The Gouver^{nr} set fire to the wood, & all the rest by his example did y^e like, whereupon about 30 cannon planted by it were discharged & about 50 chambers. And then the theater of y^e *feux d'artifice* displayed itselfe, & the last rocquets that flew up sent downe an unfortunate & ungratefull star into the eye of the Provost's only son, at whose charge all this entertaynm^t was; thus wee see how the eyes of Providence, &c^a. The boy is in a high feaver & will hardly live.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June 29th, '69.

I will begin with what makes most noyse here, & what came from Monsieur's owne mouth. That the French King having with much satisfaction received the news of the G^d S^rs good intentions of sending a Bassa hither (Monsieur de la Haye to remaine there till his returne), ordered four of his men of warre, commanded by M^r d'Almaras, to fetch him. Now whether it were a Turkish plott by this Bassa to dequoy those ships into their lare, or whether the intention was reale of sending him, is not knowne. But this is sure: being come somewhat near the place, a French captive escaped & discovered the designe of the Bassa's imbarquing with him soe many men as his pretended trayne as would surprise them, or in default of that to surround the men-of-warre with 40 galleys. Upon the news that the French fleet was on its way for Candia, in what a condition M^r La Haye may [be] it's not knowne, but feared. This bids mee tell you that last night my L^d of Winchelsea² called here at the Amb^rs house. His Ex^{ce} being abroad I spoke with him; hee told mee hee came in 15 days from Rome & intends in hast for England.

I cannot believe what our Gazettier says about the P^{ec} of Tuscanny's visiting the French Amb^r at the Hague, since all other L^{res} speak the contrary. I know not how hee should give him a

¹ Gabriel de Rochechouart, Duc de Mortemart.

² Heneage Finch, Earl of Winchelsea. He was on his way to England after having been eight years Ambassador in Turkey.

visit, since hee mett S^r W^m Temple¹ and the Span: Amb^r in neuter places, always standing or walking.

The Cavaliers here, in their huffing *bravvoure*, seem to justify the Milford businesse, 'disant que tout le monde doit fleschir au plus grand Roy du monde.' Sir Geo. Hamilton commanded all the camp this week, those officers taking it by turnes & keep an open & a noble table where the King comes constantly to dine with each Generall once, a good way to creat ambition in every one to bee a Generall. They have an absolute command over all during the week, & towards their expences the King allows them 50^l a day.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June 29, '69.

There is a report come just now that the Duke of Nieuburgh² should bee chosen K^g of Poland.

The next post shall convey the falsitude or confirmation of it. It is very strange news if true, but much more to the satisfaction of this Court than if Lorrain had been soe.

Father Patrick³ is well & now in Bourgogne, up to the waist as well in money as trouble about his *Abbé*.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: July 3^d, '69.

Being yesterday at the Savoy Ambassador's, his Scry^c⁴ gave me the Print that goes herewith, w^{ch} I presume to transmit to your Lpp, because it is not publique but very like the Duke of Savoy.⁵

In discourse hee told me that the Conde de Castelmelhior⁶ is att Turenne incognito, imploring their R^{ll} H^{ssc}'s interposition that hee may be restored to his estate in Portugall; and hee knew from

¹ Temple had been sent to the Hague in August 1668.

² Philip William (1615-1690).

³ Father Patrick MaGinn.

⁴ Chabo, Marquis de Saint-Maurice, was acting as the Ambassador from Savoy, and had with him an agent named Planque.

⁵ Charles Emmanuel II., Duke of Savoy, son of Victor Amadeus and Catherine, daughter of Henry IV. He was descended from the House of Lorraine, and married Francisca, daughter of Jeann Baptiste, Duc d'Orléans and cousin of Louis XIV. He died in 1675.

⁶ Don Luis de Sousa Vasconcellas, formerly the favourite of Alphonso, King of Portugal, who had been deposed,

a very good hand that an Agent is lately despatched from hence to the Emperor, secretly, to negotiate & obtayn his Imperiall Ma^{tie}'s resolucōn what he would doe & how governe himselfe in case the young King of Spayn should dye. Certaynly they have a more than ordinary confidence of the Emp^r, becaus they speak here soe assuredly that hee will not come into the League.¹ Talke much here that if S^r Tho: Allen² & the D. de Beaufort should happen to meet in the Mediterranean it would bee but a *facheuse rencontre*, and that 6 good ships are setting out at Toulon with all hast to joyne the latter. Are afrayd also the commerce with England will not bee soe currant as was expected, upon the returne of the ships laden with corne meeting with a prohibicōn in Eng^l ag^t the importacōn of it, soe that the King has forbidden the transportation of any more till further order, (some will have it to bee a generall interdiction of all commerce).

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July 6th, '69.

On Thursday M^r Vernon³ & myselfe went to see the Fort S^t Sebastians & a generall muster of 15,000 men. As to the former, tho' the King will have nobody take the modell of it I shall presume to tell you I never saw any thing more glorious. Ther are 8,000 men continually incamped in it, & are certaynly as many miserable, their pay very small, & by reason of their vermin they may be called moveable Tents. They sicken dayly & are removed. The walls round it are of durt & stak'd on the outside, to keep off horse: a little Bastion at each corner, on w^{ch} are about 4 guns mounted. The King's tent is very rich, interlined with orange trees to digest y^e ill smell of y^e place. When wee came into the field the King gave the Queen & Ladys of the Court an Enter-tayn^t by causing the 15,000 to fire successively, being all in a line that reached 2 miles. Twelve Canon discharged first, & then all the Regiments & Troops as they stood in order, at w^{ch} time, as the fates had ordered it, the K^g received a dispatch from Poland

¹ Louis XIV. aimed at preventing the Emperor of Austria from joining the Triple Alliance and thus uniting with Holland. Mignet, iii. p. 377.

² Sir Thomas Allin, Allen, or Alleyne, commander of the Straits fleet.

³ Francis Vernon had been appointed Ralph Montagu's secretary for his Embassy in Paris.

w^{ch} sayd (as I am told) that the Duke Kinovisky,¹ a Polander, was chosen King. Another from Rome puts the Duc d'Albret² in hopes of a cap. Advices from Lisbon say that the King Alphonso³ after hee had set sayle & was gone a tempest drove the ships back within sight of Lisbone, which soe moved the people with compassion for him, who being also discontented at ye present gouvernem^t, that they mutyned & caused their tribune to goe to the Councell with their complaynts, w^{ch} were that the King's person might be well enough secured without sending him out of the Kingdome of Portugal, & that it is inhumane to expose him to y^e dangers of the seas & a desolate Island, thereby depriving him of all sort of communication with his friends, &c^a, threatning that if hee were not sent for on shour, they would punish the authors of the order for his banishm^t. However endeavors were used to appease the people by arguments of y^e publike good & safety of the Kingdome, w^{ch} was in danger of being troubled by the Castillons as long as Alph: stayd in Portugal. But what is most apprehended is that this mutiny was fomented by enemys to the Queen & y^e persons in publike *manage* under the P^{ce}.

The French officers seem to bee in great hopes that the Constable will dispute the discharging of y^e Boats, w^{ch} the M^r d'Humières⁴ is to force y^e passage of, who is getting together a body of 7,000 men, &, notwithstanding any resistance, will not only force y^e passage of y^e s^l boats, but convey through the Spanish dominion all sorts of provision & munitions for the Pays Conquis. They will consist of 4,000 horse & 3,000 foot, who will cut downe the Forest of Arscot & other woods of y^e P^{ce} of Logny⁵ to make charcoal, to use it in burning brick & chaulk for the fortifications there.

Yesterday M^r du Moulin went hence, & for the ease of his person has left his equipage & baggage to follow him, but cannot tell how hee has disposed of the present (w^{ch} indeed proves to bee in the future tense) the Court made him for his good service as his Ma^{tie's}

¹ Michael Korybut Wisniowieski.

² Emmanuel Théodore de la Tour d'Auvergne, first known as the 'Abbé Duc d'Albret,' and later, in 1669, as 'Cardinal de Bouillon.' In 1671 he was made 'Grand Aumônier.'

³ The Revolutionist party in Portugal dethroned Alphonso VI. in 1668 and set Don Pedro, his brother, on the throne. Mignet, iii. 571.

⁴ Louis de Crevant, Marquis d'Humières, marshal from 1668 to 1694.

⁵ Claude Lamoral, Prince de Ligne, Viceroy of Sicily 1670-1674.

Minister Extraordinary, &c^a. Hee will bee apt to doe every body here ill offices in England.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July 10th, '69.

Inclosed goes what I received yesterday from Marseilles. Mr Codgill¹ confirms to mee what my last mentioned, of 6 men-of-war equipping att Toulon, designed for Candia; that the wind has been favorable ever since Mons^r Beaufort's departure, soe suddain news may bee expected from him & the result of that enterprise. Their *Rendez-Vous* (it's sayd) is at Zant,² where the Venetian Armade is to joyne with them, as also the Pope's, &c^a. At Toulon were lately launched 3 stout ships of 60 to 70 guns each; 4 or 5 more are on the stocks. That on y^e 28th past y^e ship 'John of Plymouth' from Argier³ arrived at Marseilles, where hee left that people in expectation of S^r Thomas Allen's coming with 20 sayl of ships, whose demands, they think, will be soe high that it's feared the issue will bee a warre.

I will make use of a report instead of other matter to fill up this letter. The French in all their discourse will still flatter themselves with having the greatest share in Poland, & that the new-elected P^{cc}⁴ is accordingly to come & bee crowned att S^t Denis, where King Kasimire is to confirme his abdication.

Expect with as much heat as before the arrivall of a Bassa here, & that the storming of y^e fort S^t Sebastian is deferred till then.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July 17th, '69.

My L^d Amb^r wrote some time since to my L^d Arlington about the having his wine custome free, as Mons^r Colbert has it in England, & having had noe answer therein his Ex^{ce} desires that you would please to sollicite it, whether hee may presse for it more than hee has done in this Court, & upon the refusall of it here whether it were not reasonable reciprocally to proceed with the French

¹ Consul at Marseilles.

² Zante, one of the Ionian Islands.

³ Algiers.

⁴ Michael Korybut Wisniowieski (Vienovisky). See p. 7, n. 8.

Amb^r in this affaire by denying him that priviledge. Lockart,¹ Oliver's ² Amb^r, had it here, & all English Amb^{rs} before him. It was denyed my L^t Holles, wee suppose upon the breaking out of the warre. What they alledge on this side is that it would bee a president [precedent] for other Amb^{rs} of the Princes who would demand the like, & that in Engl^d y^e custome is to give it to all forreigne Ministers, but these argum^{ts} are *mal fondées* when it was ever given to y^e English Amb^{rs} before L^d Holles's time.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: July 17th, '69, S.N.

I cannot omit by M^r Dives ³ to acquaint y^r Lpp with what I have this day learn'd from a good hand: that when the Marshall d'Humières demanded whether the 'Batteaux' had been stopped by the Constable's or a particular order from the Councell of Spain, it was answer'd the latter, & shewed to him, w^{ch} hee sent by an expresse to the King, who has also sent one to Madrid to know if that Court will owne & avow it. Wee hear by a Courrier arrived yesterday that Coll. Waldeck ⁴ made a Salley out of Candia with 3 German Regiments & beat the Turks off of Fort S^t André with a great Carnage, & that Mons. de Beaufort was gotten to Zant (very near Candya); that the spotted feaver reigned violently among the Venetians, of w^{ch} many dyed.

Drums are beating in every street to fill up the pretended or reall vacancies of such as dye at the Fort S^t Sebastian.

Everybody here seems complainingly to despair of as much as having the Treaty of Commerce between England & them, saying that the Dutch have soe great an influence upon us as to oppose it, adding what great advantages (w^{ch} Eng. could never hope for from Spain) they would give if the King of Engl^d would at least but stand neuter, but much more by a stricter & nearer friendship.

By what wee hear from Poland, the Election is disallowed by

¹ Sir William Lockhart (1621–1676), appointed Governor of Dunkirk in 1658 by Oliver Cromwell. After the resignation of Richard Cromwell he was continued as Ambassador to France, 'as a man who could best cajole the Cardinal, and who knew well the intrigues at Court.' Clarendon, iii. 882.

² The Protector.

³ Afterwards Sir Lewis Dives.

⁴ Prince of Waldeck, who began life in the service of Holland and afterwards went over to the Emperor and fought against the French and the Turks.

the Army alledging that the Polonian P^{ce} has not *à quoy* to pay the troops & that the election was made ag^t the laws of that Kingdome; that it was most probable the 3 pretenders would dispute for the Crowne by a civill warre, which must needs have a dismall issue, wherein the French will have no small share.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July 27th, '69.

Hearing of a book called 'Le Tiberie François,' that is lately printed in Holland, wherein is much concerned, & consequently the importation of them hither strictly prohibited, hee having sent one on purpose to buy them all up there, I have written to S^r W^m Temple about it, but for fear of missing of it I presume it worthy y^e curiosity to have it from thence, as I hope in a few days to send you the manuscript I mençoned in print. It is a very curious peice & am promised it by a private friend.

I think I told you in my last that I saw a letter from Madrid to the Savoye Amb^r (w^{ch} hee was pleased to send to mee) of the 10th, wherein a very particular account is given of S^r W^m Godolphin,¹ together with the Dutch minister, negotiating in that Court the giving up of Burgundy to the French upon condition of their M. Xtian King's renouncing all pretentions & right to the Crowne of Spain & surrender of Charlesroy, Ath, Oudenard, & other places adjacent,² our letters from S^r W^m giving us only an oratoricall account of the distractions in w^{ch} hee left Portugall, w^{ch} I suppose is also transmitted to you.

I am now perusing all the catalogues of manuscripts formerly y^e Card^{ll}'s Mazarine's & now in the King's Library, & what things are curious I marke downe & shall send them to you, for y^r approbation, that I may have them copyed.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: August 7th, '69, S.N.

You have heard of some difference between the Duke of Savoye & the Protestants of Geneva & of his declaring himselfe to

¹ English Ambassador at the Court of Spain.

² The towns kept by Louis under the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, 1668.

bee noe longer obliged to keep the Treaty between them.¹ For your particular satisfaction I have inquired into the reason, w^{ch} in itselfe is a meer *chanson*. There is a little Towne called Coringes, belonging to the Duke of Savoy, bordering upon the territories of Geneve, soe that one house stands $\frac{1}{2}$ on one & the other halfe on the dominions of the other; wherein the good woman hap'ned to fall sick unto death, & being a R. Cath shee sent for a Priest. Hee came: the husband, being a Protestant, flew upon him & basted him into a complaynt to the D. of Savoy, whereupon this declaration of his is grounded. It verifies the Proverb on the priest as well as the Geneveses, that when they have a mind to beat a Dog, &c^a, w^{ch} hath caused them to write to the Protestant Cantons of Switzerland for protection. I believe they have done the like to his Ma^{ty} of Eng^d too.

Now the cypher is before mee I will torment you a little more by telling you that the generall discourse of all people here is against my L^d Arlington, as the only person that hinders a better understanding between Eng^d & France. It is by Mr Colbert's² misrepresentation, who has, as I am told, had great sums of money from hence to distribute amongst some Parl^t men if he can fix it upon them.

Inclosed you have what I received this day from Madrid of the 24th past.³ By letters to others I am informed y^t the Conte de Mirande, Amb^r from Portugall, will returne about y^e beginning of 7ber, & that an Abbot of Portugall, who has been a long time at Rome, is to bee left Resident. The reason why the Crowne of Spayne sends only an *Envoyé* into Eng^d is becaus it will not have the occasion given of any disputes of precedence between the two crownes of France & Spaine, something arising about y^e P^{co} of Tuskanny's visits to y^c Fr. Amb^r. The Queen Regent has made Le Conde de Orepeza⁴ President of the Councell for Italy, & confirmed to Dⁿ P. d'Arragon⁵ to be Viceroy of Naples 3 years more.

It was sayd that Dⁿ Juan should have sent to Madrid to demand

¹ The Treaty of St. Julien, made in 1603 between Savoy and Geneva.

² The inclosure is missing.

³ Charles Colbert de Croissy, French Ambassador to England, brother of Jean-Baptiste Colbert.

⁴ D. Manuel Joaquín Alvarez de Toledo, 8th Conde de Orepeza. Died in 1707.

⁵ Don Pedro d'Aragon, son of Don Enrique d'Aragon, Duke of Cardona.

the removall of the Marq. d'Ayetone to Milan, the Card^l de Moniada's being made Presid. of Castille,¹ & that the Councell of Arragon might be removed to Sarragosa, but all this is sayd to bee malicious invention, the truth being that y^e s^d Marq^s d'Ayetone is made Collonell of the Regiment w^{ch} is almost compleat & that all things are disposed to bee quiett.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: August 10th, '69, S.N.

By my last I told you in what a desperate condition Candie was, w^{ch} was knowne by the King here to bee quite otherwise, but dissembled to the end that the news of its relief might bee the more surprising.

What you find in the 'Gazette à la main' about Fa: Nitard² is very true, & the reason why the Pope refuses to admit him in the character hee pretends is because a decree is made by him or his predecessors that no Jesuit can bee allowed to be an Amb^r at Rome.

Mr Werden is come hither, w^{ch} Coll. Werden³ would bee glad to hear. He goes hence in 2 days for England & S^r Robert Southwell⁴ may bee there about Munday night.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Aug. 17, '69.

What is most talkt of is of the death of Mr de Beaufort, & believe it to bee true. You heard, S^r, some posts since of new Imposicions that y^e King is putting upon those at Bourdeaux, among the others of 50 sous per tunn upon their ships. Inquiring into the reason, I find it is because that Tax upon forreigne vessels might not bee excepted against & taken off, as is endeavoured by the Treaty of Commerce in England.

¹ See p. 1, n. 3.

² The confessor of the Archduchess Marie Anne of Austria, who followed this princess to Madrid after her marriage with Philip IV. In 1666 he was appointed Councillor of State and Inquisitor-General.

³ Colonel Robert Werden.

⁴ Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary for Ireland (1607-1677). He had been appointed Envoy Extraordinary to Portugal, and was on his way back. In 1671 he was sent by Charles II. as Envoy to Brussels.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Aug. 24th, '69.

By Jean Senius, y^r old acquaintance, I have sent you the copy of the styles & titles this King sends to all forreigne P^{ces} & States.

S^r Edw^d Philimore dyed here two days since, but for his money sake some Jesuits persuaded him to dye ceremoniously a Roman Cath^{que}. The King intends suddainly for Chambor,¹ as well as to send more succors for Candia, according as the next advise thence shall give him occasion. Upon this Mahometan Ambassad^r's arrivall it will bee necessary to consider how the ministers of other Princes must behave themselves as to Precedency, there having, I think, as yet been noe president of that kind. Mons^r Richard² charged mee to tell you hee is much y^r humble servant & would bee more if you could (w^{ch} I think impossible) help him to a debt of le 'Chev^r du Mercers.'³

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : August 28th, '69, S.N.

The Turkish Ambassadour is on his way hither, his Ma^{ty} of France having sent orders to Lyonne to defray his charges hither.

I cannot yet informe myselfe how the Ministers of Xtian Princes behaved themselves towards that Amb^r the G^d S^r sent to Vienna immediately after the late warre. Here are some reports, but much after the French inclination, as if the Duke de Navailles has lately had some dispute with the Marq^s S^t André Monbrun⁴ upon the non-performance of what was agreed upon, viz^t, the sending 2,000 Venetians at y^e late salley, & that the former has rendered himselfe master of the Towne. It's very certayne that place is become dismall, not one house being left standing, the enemy pouring such shotts that the people are forced to live underground in cellars, & that the G^d S^r will run the risque of loosing his Empire rather than quit the seige after such expence & losse of men. I have been this day to see the King's *Bibliothèque*

¹ Chambord.

² Probably John Richards, one of Sir Joseph Williamson's clerks.

³ Sir Anthony des Marces, agent of the English King. Died in 1668-9.

⁴ Alexandre de Puy Montbrun. Died in 1673.

where are many curious peices. Upon y^r Lpp's orders I can have cōpyes of any of them.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Aug. 31th, '69, S.N.

I humbly thank you for yours of the 16th, as well as acquaint you that Mons^r d'Albret¹ is to be sworne by the Pope's Nuncio on Sunday next, & then the Card^l Cap to be presented him by the King.

Two days since my L^d Ambassadors met the Prince of Tuscany in Mons^r Tamboneau's² garden, where they made many compliments & turnes. His H^{se} leaves this place when the King begins his journey for Chambour. At his returne thence hee goes awhile to Vincennes, to give the Ottoman Amb^r audience, who, by that time, may see some effect of Marshal de Belfond's³ new levies, part whereof are designed to bee thus disposed : 500 Reformed Officers to bear patisants & pistolls in their girdles & to have 20 soues a day, each of w^{ch} to bee attended by 2 servants, well chosen men with musquetts, pistolls, & 7^d per diem, w^{ch} make up 1,500 men to bee dedicated to the Pope⁴ & bear his name, & the other regiment the name of his family, viz^t Rospigliosi. Some will say that this supply is intended only to relieve the place during the winter, & that at spring, as affaires may then stand, his M. Xtian Ma^{ty} intends to send a good army to raise the seige. This is hardly to bee imagined when much difficulty is found in the raising the other few. People being possesst with the hopes of a warre with Spain are unwilling to expose their persons & interests at home, where they find a warre soe *douce* & not ghastly, as the other appears to them since the late defeat. The wise men here say positively there is not above 2,000 French souldiers left entire in Candy ; that the resolution & manner of this salley was taken at a Councell of warre, where was the P^{ce} of Condé & M^{ll} Turenne⁵ before their

See p. 22, n. 2.

² Jean Tambonneau, President of the 'Chambre des Comptes.'

³ Bernardin Gigault de Bellefonds, made marshal in 1668.

⁴ Pope Clement IX., Girolamo Rospigliosi.

⁵ Henri de la Tour d'Auvergne, Vicomte de Turenne (1611-1675). Made Marshal-General in 1660.

going hence; that it should be without any concert with the Venetian commanders, that in case they had succeeded (of w^{ch} they made noe doubt) all the glorie might bee to the French.

Wee can yet get noe letter from Holland. It is 2 months since we had any thence. Mons^r de Louvoy having ordered that, instead of one, two posts should passe to & from thence weekly, w^{ch} those of Amsterdam being unwilling to consent, upon some pretended disadvantage in their trade therby, called an assembly of all their French merchants, where it was declared by them unitedly that their trade with France was soe inconsiderable that they could dispence with writing any L^{res} at all, w^{ch} is the reason that at present no courriers goe but an expresse weekly from the Court to Mons^r Pomponne.¹

It's sayd at length that [the] Army, despairing of taking the Fort by force of armes, is resolved at last to starve it by cutting off all *vivres*, soe that the besieged will be forced to some resolute salley. Two days since a mine was sprung by those within.

Mons^r d'Estrée² is come hither to obtayne the Vice Ad^{ty} of France, w^{ch} hee could never while M^r de Beaufort lived, because of the enjoying the profit to himselfe. It is thought hee will succeed in it. Hee has given the king a good account of his affairs in the Indys, whence hee is newly returned with all his ships.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Sep. 4th, '69.

My letters this day from Spain—I mean Madrid—of the 21st past say thus: Here are hot rumours of a war with Portugal, where they refuse to restore the gentlemen's estates of y^t countrey w^{ch} sided with Spain in the last war, & that w^{ch} gives this rumor credit among the wisest is the Conde de Miranda's taking leave 2 days since of her Ma^{ty}, part of his baggage being already on the way to Lisbon. The Conde de Molina³ is very much caressed in this Court, &c^a, & our *Envoyé* has not yet had his Aud^{ce}.

¹ Simon Arnauld, Marquis de Pomponne, Ambassador at the Hague. Succeeded Lionne as Minister for Foreign Affairs in 1671.

² Jean d'Estrées. Made vice-admiral in 1670 and marshal in 1681.

³ Spanish Ambassador at the Court of France.

Yesterday my L^d Amb^r was at S^t Germain's to bring my L^d Buckhurst¹ & M^r Saville² to their Aud^{ce} of *Congé*.

The Dauphin is reasonable well & and all the world is in hopes to bee employed with lesse danger than at Candia, though tis certayne if Spain would take no advantage by it this King will use extremity to regain the honour lost at ye place by sending great forces at spring thither.

Now the camp is broken up I presume it will appear to be no bugbear if I send the draught of the fort, w^{ch} I took two months since.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Sept. 14th, '69.

In the Rue S^t Antoine is a throne of massy silver preparing for the reception of the Turkish *Envoyé*, w^{ch} will be very magnificent, as well as y^e present intended for y^e P^{ce} of Tuscany.

The news of Candy is very uncertayne.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Sep. 21st, '69.

I must begin this with a complaint that M^r Codgill at Mar-seilles never gives us any advise of occurences there, some very considerable happning weekly worth our information. Wee never had but one letter from him, & that was 5 months since. My L^d Amb^r takes notice of it, becaus other people shew him extracts of letters from thence, &c^a.

It is most certayne that, according to his instructions & orders, in case in such time hee could not relieve y^e place, the Duke of Navailles on the 21st past began & has since embarqued the little remnant of the French w^{ch} the Turks & sicknesse have spared, esteemed by him to bee about $\frac{1}{3}$ of what hee brought thither; that this coming away of the French has caused some disorder on y^e place, w^{ch} is believed by everybody to bee since rendred up upon capitulations.

The Marshal de Belfonds has sent away all his horses & baggage; y^e Pope gives him 1,200 men & y^e title of his H^{ssc}'s Generall,

¹ Charles, Lord Buckhurst, son of Richard Sackville, Earl of Dorset.

² Henry Savile, youngest son of Sir William Savile and Lady Anne Coventry (1642-1687). He acted as Ambassador at the Court of Florence in 1670.

& y^e Rep. of Venice gives him 1,500 to be joynd in body with the 1,500 souldiers & volunteers hee is raising here; notwithstanding all w^{ch} nobody speaks positive of his going, the French here entertayning as great a dread & esteem of y^e Turkish valour that they are with much difficulty induced to goe.¹ His quarrell with M^r de Louvoy has been since more hott. The Marq^s S^t André has written for leave to come thence, there having been great misunderstandings amongst y^e French & Venetian Generalls, & both proceeded in all things without imparting or asking his advise.

The King intends to receive the Turkish *Envoyé* at Vincennes when he comes from Chambort, where he is now diverting himselfe with much magnificence.

The people have such a generall love for the D. of Beaufort that they lay great wagers of his being alive, & some say that the King has letters of it.

After you have read the inclosed² & discypher'd the King for the Lys, Mad^{lle} la Valière³ y^e Rose, & Mad^{lle} de Montespan⁴ y^e Tubereuse, be pleased to put it into my Lady Arlington's⁵ hands.

All our family is in deep mourning.⁶ That of y^e Queen Mother's expects my L^d of S^t Alban's returne hither or Orders before they can be soe. S^r Tho: Bond⁷ pretends the late Queen owed him about 40^m pound, w^{ch} he owes to others.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Sep. 24, '69.

Mr. Nott⁸ came here on Sunday last betimes in the morning, & on Munday my L^d Ambassador had a letter from Rouen under-written by one M^r Cholwich & M^r Burish, English Factors there, complaying that on the 19th currant an order came thither from Mons^r Colbert to the Director Gen^l of the customes in Normandy

¹ See letter dated October 30, 1669.

² The enclosure is missing.

³ Louis XIV.'s mistress. Became a Carmelite nun in 1674.

⁴ Also mistress of the King.

⁵ Isabella, daughter of Henri de Nassau.

⁶ On account of the death of the Queen Mother, Henrietta Maria of Bourbon, wife of Charles I., and daughter of Henry IV. of France.

⁷ Controller of the Household of the Queen Mother.

⁸ Robin Nott, servant to Lord Montagu.

not to suffer any drapery to be received & exposed to sale in any place there, but by the customers to bee first sealed & sent hither to Paris to y^e custome house, that the customes may be payd here & the merchant obliged to send his cloth to the Hall, there to be sold & not elsewhere. Upon inquiry into the matter I find M^r Colbert has a mind by this means finally to cutt off all vent of forreigne drapery, for he has prohibited all the drapers here to buy any but the manufacture of France under pain of confiscation.

My L^d Amb^r sent an answer to Rouen that they should take no notice of any such innovating order, but proffer to pay the customes there for the cloth newly come to their hands, & upon the customer's refusall & insisting to seal & send it hither, to make their complaint to his Ex^{ce}, that he may doe y^e like here with more foundation.

You cannot imagine, S^r, how M^r Colbert does turne & wind in this matter of Trade, & makes no difficulty to doe anything, tho' manifestly ag^t all Treatys, to break the neck of our English sale of drapery here, the occasion for cloth being extraordinary in this time of mourning. It is sayd that the D. of Navailles is returned again with the French to Candy. It's certain the King has ordred 8 companies of y^e Regiment du Plessis Praslin,¹ & 8 more of y^e Regiment de Villeroy Lionnois,² and 300 of his Guards to be drawne out of all the companies to be commanded by 3 captains of y^e Regiment, the whole to be joyned with y^e 1,500 raised by the Marshalle de Belfonds; the *Rende-vous* is at Thoulon & will make 3,500 men.

My letters from Spain say that Dⁿ Juan has sent for all his family to Consegra³ & resolves to live quiet at Zaragosa; that Fa: Nitard is likely to misse of y^e Cap Card^l, y^e Councell opposing the Queen's inclination, & naming the Doyen of Toledo⁴ of the family of the Porto Carrero, & that Dⁿ Juan de Castro, the great Hector of Portugall, is imprisoned. Our *Envoyé* has not yet had his Aud^{ce} there.

¹ César Auguste François de Choiseul, Chevalier du Plessis-Praslin. Made marshal in 1645.

² Nicolas de Neuville, Duc de Villeroi (1644-1730), colonel of the regiment of infantry of Lyonnais.

³ Consuegra.

⁴ Don Luis Manuel Fernandez de Portocarrero.

At last Mons^r du Louvoy has condescended, after much huffing, that the Holland post shall goe only once a week, as formerly. The Dauphin is not well.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : 7ber 28th, '69.

I am told that the succors designed for Candy carry a new invencion with them to save the number of pikemen, that a Regiment shall consist of none but musqueteers, & to save them from the horse a great number of engines of wood, stuck round with sharp spikes, light enough to bee supported by two men, are making, to surround a Regiment on all sides.

By the inclosed you will see what was complained of in our last is vanished into a mistake.¹ Notwithstanding what you hear of the Duke of Savoy's dangerous indisposicion a courier came yesterday to y^e Amb^r of Savoy, giving him hopes of his recovery. The King is not at all satisfied with the reports of y^e D. of Beaufort's being prisoner, for nothing is more certain than that he sent y^e D. of Beaufort only to bee exposed to danger, but would be very unwilling to ransom him.

My L^d Amb^r desires you will please by the first occasion that offers to send him a copy of the new Treaty of Commerce with France.²

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : 8ber 2^d, 1669, S.N.

People speak variously about ransoming the Duke of Beaufort. It's most certain, if the King would connive, the Parisians would doe it, tho' it cost them $\frac{1}{2}$ of their estates, so much doe they dote on him. However all orders of the Adm^{ty} run in his name as if he were here. The King deferrs declaring his mind till he hears what the Venetians will doe in it. I am told by a person of credit that y^e King has gotten a new mistresse at Chambort. She is a Fleming & most beautifull.

Marshall Belfonds is making all hast to Thoulon, where they dayly expect the arrivall of Mons^r de Navailles. It's a riddle to everybody to send men thither at new expence & call away those

¹ The customs on cloth.

² This treaty was not yet made; it was merely projected.

already there. By Mr Mead, who goes this week for England, I shall send over a manuscript I am transcribing, w^{ch}, by insinuating flatteries, invites y^e Low Countreys to throw off the Spannish yoke & put themselves under y^e protection of France, with many reasons why the Hollander[s] should be rather glad of having France their neighbours, &c^a. The Dauphin is not well.

The Duke of Savoy's distemper is become a tertian ague. Capt. du Tel is gone, & his name is in every forreigne Gazette, w^{ch} does not a little please him. I have a letter from Alicante that sayes S^r Thomas Allen came before Algiers on the last of August, after having refreshed & taken in provisions at Alicante; that he had sent out S^r Ed. Sprag¹ with 8 frigatts to cruse & endeavor to meet with the 10 Algerines on their returne from Candy, where they have been to assist y^e G^d Seign^r; that the Algerines are willing to give S^r Thomas all imaginable satisfaction; that my L^d Howard² is gone for Tanger³ towards Salley [Sallee] with great magnificence, & that Taffiletta⁴ was preparing for y^e siege of Algiers.

Besides what in my letter in cypher is true I can also add that y^e King is also smitten with Madam de Soubise,⁵ daughter to Madame de Rouen.⁶ For the former you may please to let stand, & the other she is to be joyned with M. Mountespan & la Valière in a 3ple League. It's sayd this busines has been long in agitation & that all p^{ties} concurre, & that M^r de Peguelin was made Grand Master of Artill^{ry} for the propogating of the negotiation,⁷ w^{ch} cannot but bee a great blow to Flanders.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Octob 5th, '69.

You will be pleased to excuse the hurry of a remove from Rue de Richilieu into the faubourg S^t Germain.

¹ Sir Edward Spragg, English admiral.

² Henry Lord Howard, of Castle Rising, brother of the Duke of Norfolk. He was acting as Ambassador to Morocco.

³ Tangiers.

⁴ Muley Archid, king of Tafilet or Taffaletta.

⁵ Anne de Rohan Chabot, wife of François de Rohan, Marquis de Soubise.

⁶ Marguerite, Duchesse de Rohan, wife of Henry Chabot, Duc de Rohan.

⁷ Antoine Nompur de Caumont, Marquis de Puy-Guilhem, Comte de Lauzun (1633-1723). Perwich's information was evidently incorrect, as Lauzun was not made Grand Master of Artillery.

If the King resolves to stay at St Germain's all the winter it will bee for his particular pleasure, everything being more *commode* there than in the Louvre, in the building w^{ch} vast numbers of men are dayly at worke. The Mareschal de Belfonds is indisposed & soe are most of those drawne out to goe to Candy.

M^r Stuart, a comm[anding] officer in Ld Douglas's regiment, was 3 days since run almost through the body by a Suisse with a halibard, of w^{ch} it's thought hee'l dye. Y^e King on Tuesday last after a great Ball would have forced a maide of honnour to the Queen, but she, whether out of policy or virtuous inclinations, opposed, & tore y^e King's band, that cost him 200 crownes.

Father Nitard is in no small disgrace at Rome. I am told by the Dutch Minister here that Holland takes it soe ill that y^e French make such vast impositions upon all their comodities that they will bee forced to break off all commerce with France.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: 8ber 16, '69.

I have a pleasant passage in one of my letters from Madrid, that the Marquesa of Leganez, an old virago of that Court, having had some of her tennants robb'd of their grapes & cowcumbers by the new regiment, made her complaynt to the Marq^s of Aytona, who, denying redresse, was really challenged to the field by the good old lady, which the Marq^s refusing to answer it is believed shee will do him a mischief, & to that purpose never goes without pistols & *Poniards*.

The Queen Regent, hearing that the King of Poland was inclined to receive the order of the Golden fleece, has consented to it, & ordred the Comte d'Arax,¹ one of that order, to carry it to the s^d king.

The Card^l de Hesse writes from Rome to the Empror that he is in great hopes at length of getting a Cardinalat at his I. Ma^{tie}'s nomination. At Vienne a courier is come from the Baron de Villa Nuovo, the Emp^r's Resident at the Port, who advises that the G^d S^r had ordred great rejoycings for the Vizier's good succes ag^t Candy, & that de Beaufort's head was shewne publicly at Larissa.²

¹ Ferdinand Bonaventure, Comte d'Harrach-Bruck (1637-1706).

² The Venetians had been severely defeated at Candia, owing to the Duke of Navailles withdrawing his troops. See letter October 30, 1669.

From Poland is written that the marriage of that King into the H. of Austria will bee disliked by the Senators,¹ & that they talke of a match rather with a Princesse of Newburg, a Muscovian Princesse, & the P^{cesse} Palatine,² niece to the late Queene & now in France. The letters thence left them in great preparations for the King's Coronation, w^{ch} was to be the next day.

Be pleased to expostulate with Mons^r Richards about the breaking open our letters, in wh^{ch} they are very punctuall here, for yesterday I received a *pacquet* from Spain w^{ch} has been in their hands 8 days, & they have taken out of it letters from Madrid & Lisbon to my L^d Arlington & M^r Scribe Trevor;³ it may bee they will be soe good-natured to send them by this post.

The King has made an order this week that no forreigne minister shall send any expresse without his leave, & I think it reaches to the receiving any.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : 8^b 19th, '69, S.N.

Herewith I send you the *Ordonnance* I mentioned in my last about the Courriers ; the reason you will hear to have been grounded upon a Courier having passed from Spain to the Resident here & hence to Flanders without being knowne at Court.

And if you doe not expostulate & threaten the like usage in England, all our letters will bee continually stopt & broken. For they doe laugh here to see how they baffle every body in this & other kinds without any resentment.

Here is a cruell rumor as if the G^d Vizier, after y^e amusement of the Capitulation, had surprised the Venetians unprovided & putt them all to the sword, but this is too dismall not to expect confirmation.

Begin to vaunt here that the Treaty of Commerce lately concluded at London will easily detasch England from Hollaud. You will please to send the copy of it by the first favorable occasion.

¹ Michael Wisniowieski married the Archduchess Eleanora of Austria. The marriage was arranged by the Emperor Leopold, much to the annoyance of the Poles, by whom the Austrians were greatly disliked.

² Charlotte Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Lewis, Elector Palatine, and grand-daughter of Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia, therefore great-niece (by marriage) to Queen Henrietta Maria. She became the second wife of Philip, Duc d'Orléans, brother of Louis XIV., in 1671.

³ Lord Arlington's colleague as Secretary of State.

The King comes to Versailles this night to passe his *Media Nox*, where the Dauphin is to treat him and to make much of him.

There will be some bustle in Flanders if the Marshall d'Humières doe convoy the 800 *charettes* of *charbon* with such a mighty force as hee pretends, the Span^{ds} gathering as great to oppose their passage.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

8ber 30, '69.

The French begin to brag that the Treaty of Commerce now on foot in England will contribute much to y^e discomposing of the League, & would persuade Holland to bee dissatisfyed at a Treaty that only settles the disorders & innovations our Trade suffered under. Tho' it is pretended that the 6 frigggatts equipping at Rochelle be desyned ag^t Algier, the world is not ignorant when it says they are to goe to the Indies upon some foundation layd the last year by the C. d'Estrée.

I wonder this Court should think the *petit* bustle at Bezançon worth a Councell, since there was no such thing as a revolt, but the terme of a year being expired that the burgers obliged themselves to quarter those of y^e garrison, in w^{ch} time it was supposed the Cittodell might have been finished, they refused them their lodging, whereupon the garrison went into y^e cittadell. As soon as the C. d'Aremberg¹ was alarmed with y^e noise of a huburb, [he] comes with a great body of men & bloody threats; y^e burgers, timorous for a while, opposed his entrance, at w^{ch} all things were quietted, it having been very usuall for Princes to sacrifice the dearest subject only to cover their owne errors, like patient victims.

The King has sent a letter by one of his footmen to the Duc de Navailles, forbidding him to come to Court but retire till further orders to his countrey estate, because he had promised the Pope's Nuncio & Venetian Amb^r that his forces should remain at Candy the whole winter, & by reason of their coming away the place is lost.

¹ Philippe François de Ligne, son of Philippe Charles de Ligne. He succeeded the Marquis d'Yenne as governor of Franche-Comté after the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. Besançon was generally chosen as the residence of the governor.

*To Lord Arlington.*Paris : November 2^d, S.N. '69.

From Madrid it's sayd that Arespacochago, a Sec^{ry} of State, is dead lately & that Dⁿ Blasco de Loyala [Loyola]¹ is desperately sick.

Besides the orders sent to the Duke de Navailles to retire himselfe, hee is enjoyned by his Ma^{ty} to make a Journall of all his actions during his late charge, & give in writing his reasons for coming away with the troops without order.²

Mons^r Lainet,³ great favorite to the P^{co} of Condé, is banished into Brittany for saying publickly that the generall had expresse commands to bring the troops off. All this proceeding is only to blind the world, w^{ch} is too clear-sighted not to observe this *Bijou*.

The Pope⁴ is most angry with France, & the Venetians lay publick aspersions on the French, terming their retreat a running away. To salve all, a processe is framing ag^t Navailles, & it will (as they say) bee prosecuted to the utmost. But there is no doubt to bee made but that the priest & the victime understand one another in the necessity of such a proceeding.

Some days since in the King's bed chamber a discourse was begun about ambassadors; a great man praised Myn Heer Van Beuning for his goode successe in his negotiation, w^{ch} the Mareschal de Grammond⁵ somewhat severely attributed to the favorable conjuncture & not his manage. I will not acquaint y^r Lpp with what they sayd of my L^d Amb^r, because it may bee imputed to a vanity in mee as related to him. I will only say y^c discourse was very much to his advantage. Of the Venetian Amb^r they made a conceited ignorant & a mathematician, without policy of the Savoyard that is here.

Are in hopes here that the Elector of Brandenburg⁶ may espouse the interest of France & bee of the League endeavoured

¹ Principal Secretary of State.

² It was owing to the withdrawal of the French troops that the Venetians were defeated at Candia.

³ Pierre Lenet, the principal agent of Condé during the Fronde. (For history of Lenet see *Mémoires de M. Lenet, Conseiller d'Etat*.)

⁴ Clement IX., whose great desire it was to prevent the Turks from taking the island of Candia. He died in 1669.

⁵ Antoine de Grammont, created marshal of France in 1641.

⁶ Frederick William, Elector of Brandenburg.

to bee framed between the Duke of Bavière,¹ the E. of Cologne,² & Bpp. of Munster.³ The C. of Furstemberg⁴ is the man that works towards it.

The Princesse of Portugall⁵ is very much afflicted upon the birth of a bastard son to the Prince by an ordinary Quean.

The Pope refuses to send the Bulls for the Bishops in Portugall open, as is usuall to all kings, w^{ch} hinders the establishment of those creatures in their functions.

I cannot easily believe what is sayd, that the Countesse of Schomberg⁶ deferres her conversion till her coming to Lisbon, where the Count⁷ may also joyne in their adjurations, unlesse some great preferment bee the loadstone.

The Emperor has reason to look for some invasions in Hungary next summer, since the world does now whisper that France & the Ottaman Court understand one another.⁸ Hee ought to bee applauded also for his soe near correspondence with the Crowne of Poland, at w^{ch} the French cannot induce themselves to bee any way pleased, after soe many endeavors & twists to gayn that Court.

I may venture to tell y^r Lpp, out of cypher, that a letter is seen here from a person of credit in the Court of Denmarque w^{ch} mentions a match on foot between y^c Princesse of Denmark⁹ & our souveraigne,¹⁰ w^{ch} I look on as an idle report only, and ought indeed not bee so much as that.

¹ Maximilian Emmanuel of Bavaria.

² Maximilian Henry of Bavaria.

³ Christopher Bernard de Galen.

⁴ Francis Egon, Count of Fürstenberg.

⁵ Marie de Savoie-Nemours, daughter of Charles Amédée de Savoie, Duc de Nemours, and wife of Alphonso VI.; afterwards, by a special Bull from the Pope, married to Pedro II. Pedro II. of Portugal did not take the title of king until after his brother's death.

⁶ Jeanne Elisabeth de Schomberg married her cousin, Frédéric Armand de Schomberg.

⁷ The Count of Schomberg was noted as a zealous Protestant, and left France after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes.

⁸ According to Voltaire an alliance with the Turks had always been the policy of the French kings since the time of Francis I., not only because of advantages in commerce, but also to prevent the House of Austria from becoming too powerful. (Siècle de Louis XIV., vol. i. p. 357.)

⁹ Probably Frédérique Amélie, eldest daughter of Ferdinand III., who married Charles Albert, Duc de Gottorp.

¹⁰ Charles II. of England. A rumour was spread in France at this period that Charles II. was about to repudiate his marriage.

The Turkish interpreter has been with Mons^r de Lyonne & made appear to him y^t the person sent hither bears the character of Ambassador, & not *Envoyé* E^{ry}, as was supposed.

It is most certain that the King winds in all parts of his kingdome & abroad to raise a considerable army ag^t spring, & begins to despair of doing any good upon England—I mean to draw it off the League, because y^e Parliaments sitting may in all appearance take notice of the great abuses done the English in their trade with France, & consequently desire the King to doe something reciprocally on that side.

They begin to be slack in their fortifications in the Pays Conquis, first because they are near finished & then they have no more Coale, but I am assured they are advanced soe farre as to serve them considerably for defense. Mons^r Louvoy is gone to view them.

The Bpp of Beziers is making all hast in his Embassy to Madrid.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Novem. 6th, '69, S.N.

This week the Turkish *Envoyé* has had audience of Mons^r de Lyonne, who was ordered by his Ma^{ty} to take the state upon him of a Grand Vizier, & give the same reception as the French Amb^r has of him at the Ottoman Court. Mons^r de Lyonne lay at length on a couch at the foot of which was a *tabouret*; the Turk was introduced by a gentleman & made most profound reverences, according to his manner, which are returned by a tip of y^e hatt & a nod that hee should sitt downe, at w^{ch} time the Turk was presented with a dish of coffee, & Lyonne, by the Interpreter, desired to see his letters & papers, by w^{ch} hee could not make out that hee was qualified with any other character than that of *Envoyé*. Whereupon the Turk alledged that hee had another credentiall, w^{ch} hee was charged under pain of loosing his head to putt into the King's owne hands. M^r Lyonne replied that the King had appointed him to hear & see all, but, since it concerned his person so near, hee would acquaint the King & endeavor to persuade him to give him audience himselfe in all the discourse.

As often as the Turk had occasion to mention him hee stiled him the Emperour of France.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: 9ber 13th, '69.

Yesterday the Parliament of Paris assembled, and on the same day the Dutch gazette was bannished France for speaking somewhat plainly in some matters that reflected upon Candy & Mons^r de Navailles.

Mons^r de Vivonne¹ hath brought the French galleys into Civitta Vecchia soe disabled that they are almost thought unfitt for service. However the King, knowing his inclination not to live at Court, has named him his Vice Admirall for the Mediterranean Sea, Mons^r d'Estrée being soe qualified for the Ocean, & is sayd to command the 6 freggatts at Rochelle ag^t Salley, whose pirates have lately taken some French vessells.

At length the courriers between Flanders & Spain are suffered to goe freely through France, & the truth is they endeavor all they can here to comply with the present conjuncture, finding it not to bee very favourable to their designs, & among other mourners they regret Prinn's² death, a person they hoped much from, becaus of his troublesome spiritt; neither are they better pleased to find the 3ple Alliance mentioned in the L^d Keeper's³ speech.

I hear that some of the Ministers here have had some rubs about the disobliging of strangers in their traffick & passage of letters, being charged not to meddle any more in such affaires but that Mons^r de Lyonne only shall have y^e sole *manage* of them.

The Turke besieges Paris, changing his seat every day, much to the *divertisement* of the people here, who take much delight to see him at his prayers.

The Danish Minister⁴ here cannot accept of the proposition made by the Ministers to take wine, corne, & salt in satisfaction of a debt to that crowne, but insists upon having ready money, alledging that they content themselves with beer & have sufficiency of corne & salt.

¹ Louis Victor de Rochechouart, Comte de Vivonne (1636-1688), only son of Gabriel, Duc de Rochechouart. He was sent under the Duc de Beaufort to the relief of Candia, and took chief command after Beaufort's death. He held the office of 'général des galères,' and was made a marshal in 1675.

² William Prynne (1600-1669), the Puritan pamphleteer

³ Sir Orlando Bridgeman.

⁴ Gabel, Danish envoy since 1667.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: 9ber 16, '69, S.N.

Yesterday my letter from Bayonne of the 6th curreant saith that severall letters from Cadiz advise that 6 of the King of Spain's ships being on their way to meet the plate fleet had been rencountred by a squadron of his Ma^{ie}'s frigga^{tts}, which had soe torne & shatter'd them that they were forced to come back, which requires confirmacōn & much more faith than I have to give credit to.

S^r W^m Godolphin writes mee of the $\frac{1}{2}\frac{3}{8}$ th past that the Queen Regent hath been ill & some say shee is in danger; that the death of Dⁿ Blasco de Loyola makes great alteracōn among the parties in that Court, hee having by virtue of his office greater opportunities with the Queen than any; that hee had no late news of S^r Tho: Allen, saving that on the 22th of 7ber a boat came off from Algiers with a letter from ye Consul to S^r Tho:, informing him that the Moores decline to exchange prisoners with him on equall termes, and that the Bashau¹ hath promised to endeavor to dispose the duan² to the best condicōns of a Peace that hee can. From those that brought the letter it was learnt that their ships in the mole are boomed up.

From Alicante wee hear that a French *Saeltier* arrived there reports that some of our frigga^{tts} have block'd up 8 sayle of Turks in Boggia [Bugia], & from Carthagena that an Algiers man-of-war had taken & burnt an English ship laden with pilchards; and that the Bay of Tunis hath broke with France, but signifies a desire to have peace with England.

Thus far S^r W^m Go.³

From Rome 'tis written that the Card^l de Hesse [d'Este] at a second audience of the Pope endeavored to engage him in a promise to his Imp^l Ma^{ty} of a cap for the P^{ce} of Bade⁴ at the first promōcōn, which the Pope refused to doe, after hee had told him that the esteem hee had for the Emp^r might prevayle much with him, but not on this occasion. And that the C. de Prado, Amb^r from the P^{ce} of Portugall, had made a very splendid entry & was lodged with the Card^l Ursini,⁵ protector of that Na^{cōn}.

¹ The Basha or Pasha of Algiers.

² Douan or Duan = the Council.

⁴ Gustave, Marquis de Bade-Dourlach.

³ Sir William Godolphin.

⁵ Virginio Orsini.

The King hath lately dispatched a Courier to the G^d Seign^r to desire that his minister here may bee qualified with better powers than hee has yett produced.

The Mareschal de Turenne is shortly to bee made *Connestable*, that hee may have a title above the rest of the *Mareschaux*, & they consequently obey him, but hee is to have that charge with some restrictions to diminish its authority.

Mons^r le Tellier has sent 10 or 12 Courriers to severall places where the garrisons are too full, that such a number make all hast to a *Rendez-vous* appointed them in the Pays Bas, to strengthen the frontiers.

Four new regiments are composing here; one for the Duke d'Anjou¹ & 3 for marine service, and it's sayd that the King will reduce his *gardes de corps* to 400 and make a Regiment of Horse of the remainder, w^{ch} shall bee called the Royall Regiment.

It is much discoursed here, my L^d, as if the Turke designe next summer to invade Poland. It is also believed that 20,000 men may doe much in a countrey where the souldiery remains unpayd & the nation itselfe poor. Soe that the world makes this metaphor—that the late King,² like a wise man, foresaw the tempests that would unavoydably attend the crowne & prudently escaped them by his resignacōn; but that this young Prince,³ tempted by the allurements of gouvernement, may meet with unexpected troubles that may discompose all hee promised to himselfe of satisfaction.

The late King has declared the Duke d'Anguien⁴ his heir to all his personall estate.

This morning a learned speech is made at Chaliott upon the death of the Queen Mother.

Monsieur de Louvoy, I hear, is not so much in reputation with the King as before, the Resident of Spain⁵ having been sent to from his Ma^{ty} that hee addresse himselfe to M^r de Lyonne in the future.

This afternoon the King shews his troops a generall review to King Casimire, who to-morrow is to be received into the Abbey of S^t Germaines.

¹ See footnote 2, p. 7.

² John Kasimir.

³ Michael Korybut Wisniowieski.

⁴ Henri Jules de Bourbon, Duc d'Enghien, son of the 'grand Condé.'

⁵ Don Michel Iturietta.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: 9ber 23th, '69.

On Wednesday the Queen Mother was interred in very great state & ceremony, after the same manner as the Queen Mother of France was. The particulars of the Ecclesiasticall part you will see printed. But believe not anything of the sermon preached by the Bp. of Reims,¹ wherein hee sett her forth for an Amazon riding at the head of an army to relieve her husband at Oxon. And that the reasons why her pious intentions for the propogating the Romish faith did not succeed was because God Alm: would have that miserable people continue in their heresies, that his judgments might bee the greater upon them, &c.

The Pope's Nuncio had lately an audience of his Ma^{ty} about the 'Dependances et limites dans les Pays Conquis,' when the King told him hee might write to the Queen Regent to send commissioners to Paris, if shee desired those matters should bee determined, w^{ch} if they could not well adjust, that they might have full powers to treat about an exchange.

It is sayd here, that besides ye 10,000 men ye Dukes of Brunswick² give³ to Holland, those P^{cs} have resolved to raise 14,000 in their room; and that Holland endeavors with much earnestnesse to gett the El Palatin⁴ into y^e 3ple Alliance, the differences between whom & ye Duke of Lorraine⁵ being at length composed. The G^d Treasurer of Poland has written to y^e King Casimire desiring him to returne back the Crowne hee hath brought away with him, w^{ch} hee took formerly in battle from the D. of Muscouvy & is richly besett with precious stones. Upon refusall, hee threatens that his pençõn shall bee stopped.

The first interview between the King and Casimire was in a Chamber wherein they entered at severall doores; the latter was

¹ Cardinal Barberini.

² Rudolph Augustus, Duke of Brunswick, and Anthony Ulric, Duke of Wolfenbüttel.

³ 'Sell' interlined in MS.

⁴ Charles Lewis, son of Frederick V., the Winter King of Bohemia, and Elizabeth of England.

⁵ Charles IV., Duc de Lorraine, son of François de Lorraine and Catherine, Comtesse de Salm. He died in 1675 and was succeeded by his nephew Charles Leopold Sixte, who took the title of Duke of Lorraine and Bar.

complimented with an offer to choose any place in France wherein hee may enjoy more freely y^e repose of y^e retired life hee promised to himselfe in resigning up his Crowne.

The Commission is past the Seal suppressing the charge of Ad^l of France, & all marine dispatches in the future are to run in the King's name.

Order is sent by his Ma^{ty} to Ath to have the trenches dug deeper, notwithstanding the inconvenience of y^e season, & [he] is resolved to augment his troops also thus:—Every standing company consists of 80 men, out of w^{ch} 30 in each company deducted will remain 50, those 30 shall have 20 new raised to bee added to them to compleat them al to 50, w^{ch} latter shall bee commanded by none but reformed officers.

The Bishop of Valence¹ is imprisoned for false coyning with 2 of his relations.

Mr de Lyonn's daughter² is to marry with young Mr de la Vrillière,³ who is to bee S^{cr}y of State after his father.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Nov^{ber} 27th, 1669.

Nothing is more discoursed here than of a warre with Holland & a good understanding with England, w^{ch} may bee construed only to alarme the former into other measures, as the noyse of an exchange has troubled Portugall, apprehending least in such case the Span^{ds} may fall upon them without any diversion from France.

I cannot well believe what is said here, that the *placcards de Residence* are executed still with y^e former vigour, since at the same time wee are told that this King has resolved to satisfy the owners for the woods hee has cutt downe & made use off in the Pays Conquis.

The French are treating with the D. of Lorrain for some of his troops, &, according as our Parliament in England, by their dis-

¹ Daniel de Cosnac.

² Madeleine de Lionne, who, February 10, 1670, married François Annibal, Duc d'Estrées.

³ Balthazar Phelippeaux de Châteauneuf, became Marquis de la Vrillière in 1669 on the death of his eldest brother Louis. He was later appointed Secretary of State.

agreements, doe give them encouragement, may doubtlesse employ their forces the next spring.

It is whispered here with much likelihood of truth that an exchange is now *sur le tapis* & likely to succeed.¹

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: 9ber 30th, '69.

By L^d Arlington's to the Amb^r we find y^t Mons^r Petit² is complained against by Colbert for libels ag^t the person of y^e K. of France. You cannot but imagine that the block of offence is the paper we send you, wherein it's true he used to be too bold in his expressions, yet never can I hear that hee wrote anything else.

They could find in their hearts to bee as vexed at y^e English 'Gazette' as those of Holland, & are troubled only to find you have soe good intelligence. What greater proof can wee have of them opening our lett^{rs}.³

In fine, you must expect, S^r, to loose a good correspondent & never to have soe good intelligence from hence; but the Amb^r will reason the matt^r with Mons^r de Lionne, & by the next Post you will hear further of this businesse.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Decemb 7th, '69.

On Thursday I saw all the magnificence of the French Court at the audience his Ma^{ty} gave the Turkish *Envoyé* (for by his reception hee was allowed no other character). All the troops were in new rich habitts, especially the King's musqueteers, who had all black velvett coats with gilded buttons & were on foot next to the Palace; the officers had rich embroider'd coats, and the King had a coat on so much valued for the great number of diamonds. Monsieur was in black cloth, had diamand buttons, & a belt cover'd with perles & diam^{ds}. The *Envoyé* came to y^e *Vieux Chateau de S^t Germain*s on horseback with 20 in company. Att his entrance

¹ In cipher, deciphered.

² René Petit, Charles II.'s agent in Picardy, Normandy, and Brittany. See Ravaissou, *Archives de la Bastille*, t. vii. p. 211.

³ In cipher, deciphered.

into y^e gallery (which was richly furnished with new tapistry of great value) y^e King being sate on a throne of silver, & along y^e sides of y^e gallery a great number of silver vessells like flower-potts. Hee had on his hands a silk embroyder'd cloth, whereon was y^e letter. Hee made three or more very low reverences, y^e King sitting still, neither moving his hatt or body, att w^{ch} the *Envoyé*, tho' hee advanced with an assured countenance, seemed much disordered & spoke very hollow & full of anger. The King told him by his Interpreter hœ would willingly make a Treaty with the G^d S^r for the good of his subjects. This magnificence was rather to shew him the King's greatnesse than any respect of his person. After all was ended y^e King sayd thus to my L^d Amb^r: 'Mons^r l'Ambassadeur, j'n'ay pas voulu toucher mon chapeau n'y me mouvoir.'

The experimenter of the transfusion of blood on a person who dyed upon it is accused first before y^e Parliam^t, & y^e processe has been long in hand, but now it's thought it may goe hard with him.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Decemb 11th, '69.

This week a courier came from Rome in 8 days & left the Pope in a desperate condiçõn, having named many cardinalls, among w^{ch} Father Nitard was not number'd, but Porto Carrero,¹ whom you know was formerly nominated by way of proposiçõn in the Councell at Madrid, that it was thought his Holynes would not live many hours, in so much that at present they believe him here to bee dead, & dispatches are sending to Rome accord^{ly}.

The losse of Candy hee took much to heart,² w^{ch}, with his great age & infirmities that attend it, might take him hence without a miracle.

The Suissers wind about & the major part of the Cantons are inclined to hearken to some proposiçõns lately sent them by the Court of France, & deputies are nominating to peruse & answer them. The reason of this change most certaynly proceeds from the uncertainty of Spain's promisses & y^e disadvantageous terms offer'd them by the Hollander.

¹ See footnote 4, p. 33.

² It was due to Clement IX.'s persuasion that Louis XIV. sent help to the Venetians in Candia (Ranke's *Popes of Rome*, p. 397).

The Emperour, whether at y^e Grand Seign^r's desire or fearing to disoblige him, has lately demolished a fort near Nieuhausel, & the Venetians are preparing great presents for the Sultan & G^d Vizier for giving them such hon^{ble} conditions.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Decemb 14th, '69, S.N.

My letter from Madrid of y^e 20th past saith the Queen Regent was very well, & had resolved to make a short progresse to Alcala, a University 6 leagues from Madrid, to pay her devotion there for her recovery.

The new regiment of Guards are so ill-payd that a horse of the Portuguese Ambassador dying lately was carved into peices by them & boyled in their *Ollas*.¹

An *Envoyé* from y^e Bpp of Munster is lately come hither. Hee is sayd to bee one of his principall Chancellours and his businesse to concert with the King about measures to bee taken the next year.

Your advices from Holland tell you that, notwithstanding the resolucōn of the States, taken about 4 months since, of laying greater imposicōns upon French effects, they have since weighed their advantage & losse thereby, & find their trade with France not soe inconsiderable as they at first esteemed it.

This preamble is only to inform you that the Frenche, knowing their inclinations & the difficulty of putting them in execution, have in returne, about 3 days since, made an *arrest*, by which they lay a new Imposicōn of 22 livers 10 sous on every chest of sugar that shall come hither from Holland.

The Duke of Chauhnes² is going this day, I think, the King's Amb^r to Rome (upon the supposicōn that y^e Pope is dead), to assist at the new election in favour of France; y^e new Card^l de

¹ Cooking-pots.

² Charles d'Albert d'Ailly, Duc de Chauhnes (1625-1698), third son of Honoré d'Albert. He was sent to Rome for the election of Pope Clement IX. in 1667, made governor of Brittany in 1670, and sent to Rome the same year for the election of Pope Clement X.; named minister plenipotentiary of the King at Cologne in 1675. Acted again as ambassador for the King at Rome on the election of Alexander VIII.

Bouillon¹ goes with him & letters are at the same time despatched to the Cardinal de Retz & Grimaldi² to be at the Conclave.

At his friends' request, before his death, ye Pope made 8 Cardinals (as I told in my last): Porto Correzio,³ doyen de Toledo, was one; Pa Lavicini,⁴ to whose neice⁵ the Pope married his nephew⁶ lately & had a principality of that name in portion; Bona,⁷ a great theologician & of Piedmont; Accaciosy;⁸ Bonacorsi;⁹ Altieri,¹⁰ Cery,¹¹ who had severall charges under his H^s, and Nerli, Archbp of Florence.¹² The last & Card^l Bouvizi¹³ are inclined to succeed the defunct.

The King has given the Archbprick of Toulouse,¹⁴ now voyd, to the Bp of Beziers, w^{ch} hee takes possession of in his way to Madrid. I believe hee looses, however, the cap promised him by Casimire, since I find not his name among y^e promoted.

Yesterday the S^r Corboyer¹⁵ was beheaded, but, notwithstanding the many curses of damnation proclaymed to him by the priests, hee dyed stedfastly a Huguenot, tho' a notorious malefactor.

Mons^r Colbert, (who was at Candy, & Navaille's great accuser,) is bargaining for y^e charge of Generall of y^e galleys with the Conte de Vivonne, who is to have that of Vice Ad^{ml} of the Levant.

The King of Poland is not most secure, & I believe cannot be merry, since y^e Dyett is broken up, full of dissatisfaction because hee proposed, contrary to the principles & fundamental laws of elections, that they should swear never to depose him, in lieu of his oath never to quitt the Crowne, as Casimire did.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: December 21th, '69.

Two days since a courier arrived from Rome, who says the Pope dyed on the 9th, so that the Duke of Chaulnes may come in

¹ Emmanuel Théodore de la Tour d'Auvergne, known as the Cardinal de Bouillon.

² Girolamo Grimaldi.

³ Porto Carrero.

⁴ Lazzaro Palavicini.

⁵ Maria Camilla Palavicini.

⁶ John Baptiste, Prince of Zagarola. son of Camillus, brother of Clement IX.

⁷ Giovanni Bona.

⁸ Nicolo Acciaoli.

⁹ Bonaccorso Bonaccorsi.

¹⁰ Emilio Altieri.

¹¹ Carlo Cerri.

¹² Francis Nerli.

¹³ Girolamo Buonvisi.

¹⁴ The late Archbishop was Charles François d'Anglure de Bourlemont.

¹⁵ J. A. de Crux, Marquis de Courboyer. See Ravaisson, *Archives de la Bastille*, vii. 335-341.

good time to improve his master's ¹ interest at the new elecⁿ. To recompence him for the charge hee sustayned in his former Ambassy thither, the King has made him Governour of Britanny & given him leave to sell his former charge hee had of Lieutenant Generall.

The discourse is very hott here of the likelyhood that the Protestants of Hungary will revolt to the Turks, for the liberty of the exercise of their religion & to bee free from the hourly alarms they have now dayly as well from the Turks as the Court of Vienna, the Emp^r being gouverned alltogether by the Jesuits & consequently, but not politickly, severe to those of contrary persuasion.

An officer of this King's went from Pignerol to Thurin with a band of souldiers, & there seized on a person, alledging publicly he was a *deserteur*, w^{ch} the Duke of Savoye, hearing of, would not suffer to bee done in his dominions till the officer whisper'd in his ear that the person secured had designed, among some others of the Cabal, to worke Mons^r Fouquet's escape.

The King has named the Marquis of Bethune² to goe his *Envoyé Ex^{ry}* to Madrid, there to compliment her Cath: Ma^{ty} upon her late recovery.

From Nancy wee hear new overtures are on foot of a Treaty between this King & Duke of Lorrain, very advantageous for y^e latter, to oblige him to espouse the interest of France.³

The M. Xtian King has resolved to raise a new Regiment of 30 companys, which shall bear the name of the Count of Vermandois⁴ (Adm^l of France) & shall bee putt on board the King's ships. Another new regiment will also bee raised for M^r le Duc d'Anjou, and it's confidently sayd that the King will, in all, levy 200 companies of horse & foot for the Spring, all w^{ch} serves to improve the beliefe of most people that there may bee some jarre with Holland.

Some letters I have seen from Madrid of a very late date, which advise that the Queen had alter'd her resoluⁿ of sending the

¹ Louis XIV.

² François Gaston de Béthune (1638-1692), son of Hippolyte de Béthune, Comte de Selles.

³ See p. 53.

⁴ Louis de Bourbon, Comte de Vermandois, born 1667, son of Louis XIV. and Madame de la Vallière. He was made admiral when two years of age.

Marquis d'Eliché¹ into Portugall, but to continue the B. of Batteville,² who is sayd to have discovered some intrigues the former had on foot with the ministers of Portugall.

I forgott to add that at Rochelle about 400 seamen mutinyed & would not bee putt on board some ships y^e King is sending towards Persia; a part of the garrison made them all prisoners, & will bee prosecuted at law.

Wee hear the Dutch have lost 2,000 men on the Coast of China, endeavouring to recover Insula Formosa, formerly in their possession.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : December ye 25th, '69.

The originall occasion of a report lately, as if Letters of Reprizall had been given out here against the Hollander had onely this foundaçon : The King made an order wherby all French serving on board any Dutch vessells should quit the service, & if unwilling, to bee compelled thereunto; in pursuance of which, 2 French men were demanded by the governour of Marseilles which hee had learnt were on board a Dutch convoy; the Captain wherof, refusing to deliver them, they being in his master's service about 20 years & settled with their wives & children in Holland, sett out to sea beyond y^e reach of their gunns, expecting that the ships under his convoy would follow him, but they were stopped & remaine so still; of w^{ch} the Dutch Resident here tells mee hee is making complaint, & I presume to give y^r Lpp an account, fearing you might not have had it from other hands.

I am told that a brother to the Bishop of Munster is with the Court incognito, & that some calculations are making with him about measures to bee taken att spring, in case it shall bee thought fitt to stirre.

Mons^r Colbert violently stirs about y^e increase & y^e propogation of Commerce; that under that colour it may bee feared that y^e French will have such considerable forces in both y^e Indies, according to y^e great marine preparaçons they are now making, that upon y^e first noyse of a breach that may happen to bee made, they may bee able to act & find y^e world in those parts unprepared to receive y^m.

¹ Don Gaspar Mendez de Haro, Marquis de Liche [Heliche], son of the celebrated minister Don Luis de Haro.

² Charles, Baron de Batteville [Watteville].

A *Suisse* in much esteem here is lately sent into Switzerland to raise men for his most Xtian Ma^{ty}. It is sayd of the Turkish *Envoyé* that, being asked how hee liked France, hee replied that if his master had knowne it had been so fine a countrey hee would have come & conquer'd it.

By y^e last courier that came from Rome, sent to this King by the Card^l Ursini upon the Pope's death, it is learnt that the two factions of Chigi & Rospigliosi¹ are agreed unitedly to choose a new one that shall bee to their devoçon, y^e former having great interest & influence on y^e rest of the Cardinals; it's beleived that they may have elected a Pope before the Duke de Chaunes can possibly arrive there, because the Conclave was resolved to bee composed on the 19th currant.²

The Treaty I mentioned in my last to your Ldpp between the M. Xtian K^s & y^e Duke of Lorrain is reported to bee near a conclusion, wherby the latter engages himselfe to espouse the French interest & consequently raise men, as is sayd, to ye number of ten thousand.

The advantages to bee given to the Duke are;—permission to refortify Nancy & restore to him Marsal, as well as to favorise the eleçon of his son the P^{ce} of Vaudemont³ to bee his heir & successour to the Dutchy of Lorrain by a general Assembly of the Estates there, to the exclusion of the P^{ce} Charles of Lorraine his nephew; this works much with the Duke towards the making ye Treaty. France is by it also to renounce & annull all former pretencions & treatys, w^{ch} the French insist upon may bee done in private, but the other alledges that because those formerly made were verifed by the Parl^t of Paris, the dissolucion of them ought also to bee publickly manifested.⁴ This negociacion, it's thought, may hinder P^{ce} Charles's marriage with the Emp^r's sister.⁵

¹ Alexander VII., who died in 1667, was descended from the House of Chigi; Clement IX., from the House of Rospigliosi.

² After the death of Clement IX. the Holy See remained vacant for nearly five months.

³ Charles Henri de Lorraine, Prince de Vaudemont (1649-1723).

⁴ For treaties between France and Lorraine, see Koch and Schoell, *Histoire abrégée des Traités de Paix*, i. 344-347.

⁵ Charles Leopold, son of Francis Nicholas and nephew of Charles IV., Duke of Lorraine, married Eleanora, sister of Leopold I., after the death of Michael Korybut Wisniowiecki in 1673.

The Archduchesse is already treated with the title of Queen of Poland, her marriage being in all points agreed upon & persons of great quality on their way to conduct her towards the consummacion of it.

The Grand Seign^r has declared that his intencions are to maintaine the peace between him & y^e Emperour inviolably, provided the latter will give order it may bee more punctually observed than it hath been hitherto by his subjects, & not oppose any of his other designes, without mencioning whether they were intended against Poland or the Venetians.

The M. Xtian King has resolved to maintaine on board his Adm^l & Vice Adm^l two hundred young gentlemen Volonteers, that they may learn the Art of Navigacion (by y^e assistance of Masters), to render them capable of succeeding in the commands of officers who shall happen to fayle, as also all the colledges on the sea coast are ordered by the King to bee transformed into nurserys for marine learning, especially at Brest one is to bee established for y^e making able pilots.

The King, being informed that some of the Councillors of the Parliament at Bourdeaux had reflected in their discourse somewhat severely on a new Edict w^{ch} his Ma^{ty} had lately verifed in Parliament, has bannished them severally to S^t Malos, Alençon & Sens.

The Cardinal de Retz has lost one of his eys by a rhume fall'n on his sight, w^{ch} hinders him from making his voyage to Rome.

The Archbp of Rouen¹ is extremely sick. The King will bee at Versailles about 12 days, designing to make round it a wall & forme it into a little citty, to w^{ch} end all the nobility of the Court are to build houses round it for their use. Hee intends suddainly (I hear) to make two Dukes & Peers, whereof one is to bee the Marq^s de Peguillani.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : New Year's Day, 1670.

It is no lesse true that ye K^g designes a warre wth Holland under cover of Bp of Munster, to w^{ch} end he intends to send him some troops as well as money. Nay, more than all this, it is sayd that France is allmost sure of Spayne for a great sum of money,

¹ François de Harlay Champvallon.

which it is to give them in lieu of their paying any to Sweden. But this, I suppose, is grounded upon Spain's not performing according to agreement with the League.¹

Are much apprehensive here of a Spanish Pope.

Mad^m Montespan's husband² is divorcing himself from her & intends to settle his estate as well as his person on a scrivener's daughter, a great beauty of this place. I'll assure you this is great news & few know anything of it.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : January the 4th, 1670.

Since my last a gentleman that came out of Turkey, & took Rome in his way on the 17th past, reports to y^e King that the faction of the Barbarines³ seemed to bee most prevayling, that there were great differences among the rest, & that the Conclave would in all appearance last a long time before they may agree upon a new election. However the Duke of Chaunes & Card^l de Bouillon are embarqued, & the former has orders that in case hee shall hear that a Pope bee chosen before his coming to Rome, hee shall not enter that place but returne immediately.

The 5 or 6 ships soe long talked of, designed for Persia, will hardly bee able to begin their voyage till March, their Commander, Mons^r du Turelle,⁴ (as I am informed,) lying here incognito to bee cured of a fowle distemper.

The last letters from Venice say that the Jesuits had invited the French and Spannish Amb^{rs} to a great Ceremony in their Order, & accordingly Dⁿ Gaspar de Tebes⁵ for Spain was there before the President de St André, y^e French Ambassador,⁶ and kneel'd on the Cushion on the right hand, w^{ch} the other perceiving at his entrance willed him to rise, w^{ch} hee did, saying hee was

¹ Part of the money promised by Spain to Sweden had fallen due, but Spain had refused to pay, and Sweden thereupon threatened to withdraw from the Triple Alliance (Mignet, vol. iii. p. 110).

² Henri Louis de Pardaillon de Gondrin, Marquis de Montespan.

³ Franciscus Barberini.

⁴ Monsieur de Thurelle-Thiballier, appointed 'capitaine des galères' in 1672.

⁵ Don Gaspar de Teves, Tello de Guzman (1608-1673), son of Don Melchior de Teves.

⁶ Nicolas Prunier, Marquis de Saint-André, French ambassador in Venice.

willing to give him his place because hee was obliged to wayt on a lady home that stay^d for him at the door. To repaire as much as hee could of the affront the French Ambassador threw downe the seat that was placed equall with his, sett there for the Spannish Ambassador. The ArchBp of Thoulouze, (formerly Bp of Beziers,) is gone on his embassy to Madrid, & has particular orders, as I am told, to sollicite that Court to give passage to some of the M. Xtian K^g's troops, tho' it bee ridiculous to imagine the Span^d would consent to any thing of that kind so much to their owne damage unles a perfect understanding were between the two Crowns.

The French brag of a league they hope is near a conclusion of y^e Electors of Brandenburgh, Colen,¹ Bavière,² & Munster, to second their designes ag^t the Hollander, whom they call insolent people to dare cope with a mighty monarch. It is thought the levyes that are making by the Duke of Lorrain are to [be] employed by the French & assist the Bp of Munster, whom they now treat as a Holy Prelate much abused by the Dutch, & have changed their notes since they sent a great party of horse against him. Every souldier here begins already to calculate the number of days that such & such citties in Holland can hold out & ye minute they ought to resigne or bee taken.

Letters from Marseilles say the S^r Martel had declared warre ag^t the Algerines & was putting to sea with 6 frigatts with intention to joyne with S^r Tho: Allen.

All imaginable endeavours are made from hence to gett Sweden off of the alliance upon Spain's tardinesse in paying y^e promised subsidy.

The King of Poland has some reason to fear hee shall be deposed & have a pension of 30^m Crowns, since his authority is slighted, & Duke of Muscovy pretends to have his son chosen, w^{ch} the people are the rather inclined to consent to because they apprehend the Turkish invasion.

These are the usual styles of this King when hee writes to Florence & Savoye :

‘ Mon frère et Cousin

le Duc de Savoye : ³

Mon frère, j'ay receu V^{re} lettre, &c. ;

¹ Cologne.

² Bavaria.

³ Charles Emmanuel, Duke of Savoy, married Francisca Magdalena, daughter of Gaston Jean Baptiste, Duc d'Orléans, uncle of Louis XIV.

subscription is—

‘ V^{re} bien bon et affectionné
Frère et Cousin,
LOUIS.’

When the King writes to the Duchesse, y^e words ‘ Frère et Cousin ’ are made ‘ Sœur et Cousine,’ without any other alteraōn.

To ye D. of Florence.

‘ Mon Cousin,
Le grand Duc de Florence ;¹
Mon Cousin, j’ay de la joye,’ &c.

Ye close of the letter is—

‘ Priant dieu qu’il vous ayt, mon Cousin, en
sa sainte et digne garde.’

LOUIS.

To ye Duchesse of Florence it is only changing it into ‘ Cousine et Grande Duchesse.’

The same to ye P^{ce} of Tuskanny.²

‘ A mon Cousin
Le Prince de Tuscané,’

without any other alteration.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Jan. 11th, ’70.

From Stratsburgh the letters of the 2^d currant say that all the Cath^{que} Cantons of Switzerland, excepting Lucerne, had promised the French Resident to enter into noe confederacy ag^t the interest of France, & particularly that of y^e 3ple Alliance, and it was expected the Prot. Cantons would come to some speedy resolucion also.

You have heard of the disgrace of the P^{ce} of Ausberg³ in the

¹ Cosmo, Duke of Florence, married Marie Louise, daughter of Gaston Jean Baptiste, Duc d’Orléans.

² Cosmo, son of Ferdinand II., Grand Duke of Tuscany, married Marguerite Louise, daughter of Gaston Jean Baptiste, Duc d’Orléans.

³ Wolfgang Engelbert, Count or Prince of Haversperg or Aversberg. See *Gazette de France*, 1670, No. 3, p. 37.

Court of Vienne; the cause is sayd to bee for corresponding with French ministers and discovering to them ye Cabinet secrets of the Emp^r.¹

Before his leaving that citty, hee wrote a very submissive letter to the Emp^r, excusing himselfe and desiring to be informed, by ye Baron of Hoher,² why hee was disgraced, was ans^d that he had better acquiesce, least he know the cause with the losse of his head.

There are some *petits* disorders likely to bee from ye proceedings of Count Hanau,³ who would alienate some lands & put them into the present possession of the Duke of Lorrain as mortgage for 200^m rixd^r hee borrows of him, w^{ch} the younger brothers have endeavoured to oppose, & by the favour of the El. Palatin, Duke of Firstemberg, and Marq^s of Baden putt men into garrisons of the whole county. C. Hanau is protected by Lorrain and Mentz, in hopes they may convert him from the Protestant Religion.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Jan. 15, '70.

Here is nothing new since my last, but almost a certainty of the King's resolucion to make a progresse at Spring into Flanders to view ye new fortifications there, where it's supposed hee may lye on his guard all the next summer in case anything for his advantage may happen by the ordinary course of generall affaires. His person will certainly have ye pretext of drawing many troops into those p^{ts}. Wee hear out of ye Spannish territories there that ye troops moulder into rapine and murthers and ye place in an ill posture of defence.

I have seen letters that say the Hollanders had sent a person to ye Bp of Munster to know ye reason of his armament and if his intention were to violate ye Peace of 1666; ⁴ that they had leave from the Emperour to invade him upon the first hostile action. The discourse is as if the French were almost sure of Sweden, upon the delays they have fomented in payment of ye subsidy. Talk confidently of a Cath^{que} League in the Empire for the interest of

¹ See Mignet, iii. 453.

² Johann Paul, Baron von Hoher.

³ Philip Reinhard, Prince of Hanau. See *Gazette de France*, 1670, No. 11, p. 88.

⁴ Treaty of Breda, 1666.

France, but I don't believe them such saints to work soe great miracles.

No news yet from Italy or Spain by reason of ye great snows. Instead of it I will try y^r faith by a report here that the Gd Vizier is turn'd rebell and made himselfe King of Candy, fearing to returne to Constantinople with the losse of his head. To render it more improbable he has married, say they, Morosini's¹ daughter.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 18, 1670.

You may still wonder at our barrenness of news, it being about a month since we had letters out of Spain, & a long time since any have come out of Italy. I am afraid our 'Gazetteer à la main,' is seised on, because hee has fayled mee three times. I shall in such case have another to send you.

My last letters from Strasburgh, of the 11th currant, say that what I sent you lately of that nature is so true that C. Philippes Jeaques, a near kinsman to C. Hanau, being lately dead without heir, hee has sent a party of men to seise on all his lands for himselfe, w^{ch} the cadets doe oppose & their petty armys are like to come to blows.

There is a peice of land in the Dutch dominions, & particularly in the possession of a gent. of Groeningen,² to w^{ch} ye Bp of Munster lays clayme, as belonging to him; the Dutch, rather then embroyle themselves for a thing so small, especially whatever is detain'd from the Bp becoming a generall quarrell & here called a *Sainledge*,³ are contented to deliver the few acres into his possession, but are jealous that hee may fortify upon it & soe keep a gate to let his armys into that countrey when hee pleaseth.

What I wrote in my last about the King's going to the Frontier is fixed to a day; I mean Easter Munday he intends without fayle to set forwards, but it is probable some things may intervene that may cause him to alter his resolution as to ye *pieuse* day, & may antidate his journey or deferre it longer.

My L^d of Northumberland⁴ has taken up l'Hostel de Basionère

Francesco Morosini, who had commanded the Venetian troops at the siege of Candia.

² Groningen, in the Low Countries.

³ *I.e.* sacrilège.

⁴ Josceline Percy, 11th Earl of Northumberland (1644-1670).

(ye Queen Mother's house of residence here) for 8,000 *livres* a year, intending at his returne from Rome to spend some time & money at Paris.

I hear many of the reformed officers maintaynd in Picardy by $\frac{1}{2}$ pay are in such impatience for a warre that they have quitted their garrisons & are gone over to ye Dutch in hopes of finding employment.

I must disabuse you in what I wrote formerly upon the credit of a 'Gazette à la main,' for it is false that any warre is declared by ye French ag^t Algiers. This I received from ye Dutch Consul at Marseilles, where it was sayd to have been published. I have caused ye collection of this King's styles & titles (w^{ch} I sent you some months since) to bee review'd & examined, & can assure you that they are perfect and now in use without any alterations, but such as I shall send you in a few days.¹

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 22th, 1670.

You have heard, I doubt not, of a great tryall here between the widow of a person that dyed by the experiment of transfusion of blood made upon him and the phisitian who order'd it. The President's son pleaded a long while with much eloquence in the Doctor's behalfe, but an ordinary counsellour for the woman carryed ye cause and thereupon an edict of Parliament is coming out forbidding the practise of transfusion of blood under the pain of corporall punishment. This is a great peice of news to the English Greshamites.

Sr Wm Godolphin writes mee that the Marq^s de Liche's lady's² dead, the great beauty of the Spannish Court, whereupon all discourse of his embassy into Portugall is layd aside for the present; that Dⁿ Lorenza Santos de San Pedro (who was that prisoner of quality taken out by the Turks of the English vessell bound from ye Canarys to Lisbon) is lately arrived there. He was demanded by Sr Tho: Allen, but finding little hope of liberty that way hee chose rather to pay downe 25,000 pieces of ₛ for his ransome than expect our reduction of ye Moores to the termes wee pretend. With him there came off at ye same time 220 Spannish captives, with him redeemed by the Mervinarian fryers,³ who goe abroad

¹ See p. 48.

² Daughter of the Duc de Médina Céli.

³ *I.e.* Frères de la Merci, an order founded in the thirteenth century.

every year with the almes they collect for the purchasing Xtians out of slavery ; that the morthor of Dn Juan de Toledo ¹ at Brussels hath much troubled the Queen and perplex'd the ministers, hee being a person most proper for the Court of England ; that the Conde de Molina is made of the Councell of warre, and the Bprick of Jurgentum (antiently Agrigentum) in that island of Sicily, worth about 5,000^l sterl. per ann., is sayd to bee kept voyd for Father Nidhard when his other pretentions in Rome shall fayl him, w^{ch} is supposed hee hath put a period to, finding himselfe excluded out of the late promotion of Card^l. But the brethren of his society will not believe that after the great honours hee wore once in that Court hee will at last descend to a Sicilian Bprick.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Jan. 25th, 1670.

The latest news from Rome is of December 31st & informs that Cardinal Antony having by a Courier received a despatch from the King of France, hee made an elegant speech to the Colledge of Cardinals, wherein hee desired them in the name of ye M. Xtian King to suspend the election of a new Pope untill such time as the French Cardinals & ye Duke of Chaulnes, his Ex^{ty} Amb^r to the Holy See, were arrived there, they being as then uncapable of proceeding by reason of the 6 factions—Barbarin, Panfilio, Chigi, Rospigliosi, France, & Spain.

The two Card^{ls} de Retz & Bouillon with the Duke of Chaûnes being arrived att Genes [Genoa] ye 3^d of January visited some Churches incognitis, supped with the Princesse of Monaco,² & without any desire of receiving a Compliment from the Republick lodged on board the French galleys, & next day endeavour'd to goe by land ; but finding their passage over the mountayns interrupted by the great snows & ice, they were forced to returne & embarke again, soe that it's thought they could not gett to Rome before the 15. of January. Here noe news yet that ye 3 severall Spanish Cardinals are set forward from Madrid towards Rome, neither is it believed that Card^l d'Arragon will quitt y^t Court because of his charge. However the Spannish faction seems to bee very strong at Rome, by its joyning with that of Barberin, Panfilio, & Rospigliosi to oppose &

¹ Don Juan de la Puente, Canon of Toledo.

² Catherine Charlotte, daughter of Antoine, Duc de Grammont.

exclude the Chigi. But as yet wee know not on whom ye lott may fall.

From Venice the letters of the 6th Currant say that they have recovered some part of the late shipwreck there, soe that the losse, it's thought, may not bee soe great as it was feared, unles of the 3 Venetian nobles who perished with a great number of other persons, ye storms & tempests having been very violent in the Adriatique Sea.

The Peace is soe well observed by the Venetians & Turks in all the frontiers that nothing can bee more to their satisfaction & a future prospect of quiett. The G^d Vizier is still repairing ye fortifications of Candy, & arming a g^t number of galleys, w^{ch} does not a little alarme Maltha & Sicily. But the long seige of Candy has wasted soe many souldiers & seamen out of ye Ottoman Empire that it is not probable the Turks can pretend to any considerable seige these 2 or 3 years, unles the Xtian Princes by their unnaturall divisions shall, in ye meantime, give life to their common enemy. The cold is extreme & all the rivers frozen up. From Marseilles it is written that the Marq^s Centurion¹ has received orders from the King to equippe 3 galleys w^{ch} the King lends him to put himselfe in a condition to bee soon at sea with his squadron. The galleys are called the 'Dauphiné,' 'la St Dominique,' & 'la Galante,' commanded by Mess^{rs} de Villeneuve, de la Molte, & ye Cheval^r de la Reynarde. Then hee intends to seek out the Pirates, &c^a.

Since the first Courier from Vienna w^{ch} brought news of the Emperour's being dangerously ill, & gave subject of great discourse here in case of his dying without issue male, there is one arrived yesterday that gives a better acc^t of his Imp^l Ma^{ty}, that hee is in no great danger, his feaver being become regular.

I am told by a good hand this day that Mons^r Gourville,² *Envoyé* into Spain, was at his first coming into that kingdome much complimented by a person sent from Court on purpose, but being come to Madrid & demanding in ye P^{ce} of Conde's name ye payment of a debt you formerly heard of, upon default of w^{ch}, threatning that ye King of France would grant him reprizalls against them, the Spaniards look on him over their shoulders as if it were nonsense he ask money in this age.

Mons^r de la Haye³ (not ye Ambr in Turkey), some say, is to goe

¹ Hippolyte, Marquis de Centurion.

² Jean Hérault de Gourville (1625-1703).

³ Lieutenant-general of the East Indies.

Ambassador to the G. Mogul, thence to Suratt, & thence to Constantinople, to reside there in his name sake's place, w^{ch} I cannot believe by reason of ye immence charge of such an embassy into Persia, where no ordinary presents must make them wellcome. But this I think to bee more true & likely, that hee is to goe with two East Ind. directors to Suratt, & thence to Madagascar, w^{ch} place hee is to governe & supervise all those who have none but their owne consciences to inspect the King's account there.

You may be almost assured that the neck of Munster's designe is allmost broken, since the 2 shoulders of Cologne & Brandenburg fayle him in its support & his affairs in France.

I am assured (for I saw the list & names) that all ye reformed Officers in these troops will be reduced, and six great officers of ye militia are named by ye King to consult about the regulation of the troops, better than they are at present, there being to each company 4 or 5 captains, & ye number of them comes to more than 400, to save soe much charge. The reason is that when the King shall have occasion to raise a greater army hee will not want gentlemen who, on the strength of their owne purses, may bee able to serve him better in the levye & save him money in the mean time. No stone is left unturned wherby the ministers think they can save any thing.

Tho' it continues to bee fixed, the King's journey into ye frontiers, yet 'tis believed ye ministers will exercise all their facultys to divert any likelihood of a warre, & have reason on their sides, because of other expences they are managing at the Goblins & all over the Kingdome, wherby they ruine all forreigne commerce with them (being assured that not many ells of English cloth hath been sold these 4 months in this place & other merchandise proportionable), more than if there were an open warre between the 2 nations. For now covertly they vend what they please in England & will sell nothing to English merchants for barter, but ready money. This must certainly bee knowne in England as well as here, & ought as certainly to bee remedied. I have observed y^r directions about Codgill, & add to all this that at this moment of time I have a little note from the Consull at Sevilla, w^{ch} says thus :

'Sevilla: 4th of January, 1670.

'S^r Thomas Allen has taken 2 Turks men of war, of 14 & 15 guns off Cape S^t Martinis in his way towards Argier, where hee

intends to lye with his cleane friggatts. It is hoped that in a short time hee may be able to give a good account of his taking more of them. My L^d Howard is still at Tanger, iresolved whether to proceed on his Embassy towards Taffiletta, having lately had some rubs in his Treaty about proceeding w^{ch} causeth some to believe that his Ex^{ce} will not goe to him.'

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Jan. 29th, 1670.

At Havre de Grace the great ship I formerly told you of,¹ 800 tunn and 85 guns, built by the King for a voyage into Persia, Madagascar, &c, sayling out of that river with intention to get to the *rendezvous* at Port Louis, in Brittany, by a strange wonderfull accident of a great gust of wind was staved, & the Lieutenant with all the men lost, the Captain escaping by a miracle to bee disgraced for the cause of ye misfortune by his ill-manage.

I forgott in my last to tell you that Card^l Bona was much looked on at Rome, and some would needs make him Pope, upon w^{ch} a Pasquil was posted up thus: 'Papa bona non est oratio Latina,' w^{ch} was ans^d by himsele or friends, 'Papa bonus non est in usu.' The Card^{ls} Chigi² & Roberti³ had debauched many of the old Cardinals in favour of Celsi with a distribution of 200,000 crowns, w^{ch} made good 32 voyces, but ye plot is sayd to have been discovered and all the machine broken.

Now I will, out of cypher, acquaint you with a Court passage.

The Queen lately won a great sum of money att play, whereupon the King is sayd to have gone and congratulated her good luck, but spoyled his compliment in a leving cheek about the disposall of it, showing her an account how D^{na} Molina,⁴ her great favourite, had lately transmitted into Spain considerable sums with intention to build a Palace worth 3 millions of *livres*, alledging it was no compliment to France to send money out of it to build in another countrey.

I might add a foolish report of the cause of the Emp^{rs} distemper to bee that [the] fountain whereat hee used to drink water was full of vipers and venomous creatures.

¹ This letter is missing.

² Flavio Chigi, nephew of Pope Alexander VII.

³ Carlo Roberti.

⁴ Mdle. Molina, lady-in-waiting to Queen Marie Thérèse.

The King is very well at present & was seen hunting 2 days since, and ye main dispute att Court is whether hee shall goe for Bourbon or Flanders first. Hee is altogether inclined and bent for the latter, well knowing that if he stay at Bourbon it will bee too late for him to doe anything on the frontiers.

[*Not addressed.*]

Feb. 1. 1669.

Y^r Lp^p will learne more certainly than from mee ye cause of this disorder at Court, yet I must acquaint you wth what I heare of it. The King being highly incensed wth ye Chev^r de Lorraine¹ & imprisoning him in a place like Newgate,² Monsieur was much troubled, hee being his onely favorite & capitulated ye reason soe much wth ye King that hee overheard him to repeate his words, whereat hee was much enraged & commanded him & Madame to retire to their Castle in Champagne, whither this morning they are going. All ye Court sayd the King was never in soe ill a humour & so discomposed; some doe probably enough say it was their unseasonable pressing for money. This, I am sure, the storme is not yet over. This has made a dismall alarum in Paris, & people grumble at ye King for never coming hither since Beaufort's death.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : February 1, 1670, S.N.

I am assured that the King has sent to ye Queen of Spain that shee need not be alarmed att his voyage into Flanders, ye very same message that he sent her 2 years since when he invaded Flanders.

My Correspondent att Strasbourg says thus : 'Mess^{rs} les Estats Generaux travaillent fort a un accomodement entres [sic] les Electeurs de Mayence et Palatin et le duc de Lorraine; ils ont pour ce sujet chargé le S^r Harmel Bruynnuicks, leur resident à Vienne, d'offrir leur mediations, ce que Mayence et Lorraine ont acceptés, mais l'Electeur Palatin fait le difficile nonobstant que cy devant il avoit imploré l'assistance des Mess^{rs} les Estats, ce que nous fait soupçonner qu'il est suporté par la France. Le bruit

¹ Philippe de Lorraine, known as the 'Chevalier de Lorraine.'

² Pierre Enceise at Lyons. For particulars of this quarrel see Montagu-Arlington, 'Letters,' *Hist. MS. Comm.* p. 462.

qu'on avoit fait courir d'un traité entre le Duc de Lorraine et la France ne se trouve pas veritable.¹ Il est vray qu'on a fait au duc des propositions fort avantageuses, mais comme en mesme temps on a fait d'un autre costé des propositions tout à fait contraires à celles là, cela a extrêmement effarouché le d^t Duc qui, nonobstant sa viellesse, est fort sur ses gardes. A Ratisbonne le Duc de Mecklenbourg² s'est exposé à la moquerie de tout l'Empire, s'estant laissé employer de recevoir publiquement et solennellement l'ordre de St Michel de Mons^r de Gravelle,³ une action fort bien-seante à un Prince d'Allemagne.'

This week an extraordinary expresse was sent from Court into Holland, but I cannot learn its burthen.

The letters from Vienna give us better news of y^e Emp^r, and that at present he is endeavouring to gain Brandenburg from the French interest, to w^{ch} he is at present much devoted.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Feb. 8, 1670, S.N.

I have transmitted to M^r Williamson the latest advice from Rome, & a Pasquil that concerns the Card^ls Letters from Madrid of the 8th past say that Mons^r Gourville, ye P^{ce} of Condé's *Envoyé*, had then audience from the Cath^{que} Queen & some hopes to have a satisfactory dispatch, thô the Spannish *Envoyé* assured me two days since that Spain thinks ye P^{ce} ought to bee satisfied with what he has already received, & that it is almost impossible to induce the crowne to give him any more.⁴ It is also true that they are apprehensive & impatiently expect the arrivall of their Indy fleet, the rather because near 30 pirats lye in wayt for them.

It is sayd there that the Hollanders offer to the Queen Regent 20^m fast & 600 p. ^s yearly towards the defence of Flanders in case a war should happen, w^{ch} is supposed to bee a *bravoure* to ballance an instruction the ArchBp of Thoulouse carryes with him to propose a marriage between the King of Spain & little Madam⁵ of France, a league ag^t Holland & a remission of all pretentions as a

¹ See p. 53.

² Christian Lewis, son of Adolph Frederick, Duke of Mecklenburg.

³ Abbé de Gravel, French Resident at Mayence.

⁴ See letter dated January 25, 1670.

⁵ Marie Thérèse.

portion, upon condition that in default of heir male the Dolphin shall inherit Flanders.

The letters of ye 22th past say that the Duke of Cordona,¹ head of the House of Arragon, dyed suddainly as he was talking with his domesticks; that the Marquis de Liche has layd aside all thoughts of going Amb^r to Portugall since the death of his lady, w^{ch} he resents as he ought, & the Spaniards laugh at Miranda for having dismissed all his trayne in that Court & say that ‘inceptit ædificare et non potuit consummare.’

Coming near home I must acquaint y^r Lpp that the Marquis of Montespan is att St Sebastian with his 2 little sons, whither he fled to avoyd a torrent that threatned his destruction, under the disguise of a military processe for having abused his regiment in their pay, &c.

The Duke of Tremes² dyed 3 days since here, aged 97 years. Since the Chev^r de Lorraine’s disgrace a sufficient number of guards have conveyd towards Lions & intend to bring him to Montpellier to bee a prisoner in that cittadel; others say hee shall be exiled to Maltha for 3 years, ‘pour y faire ses caravanes,’ & shall have a pension from the King of 3 thous^d pistolls—in fine, untill some acomodation of that busines be found out. The King & Monsieur are both angry.

The C^t de Vivonne, I hear, refuseth to accept of ye charge of Adⁿ of France under the little C^t de Vermandois, great Adⁿ since Beaufort’s death, but will rather keep that of generall of the galleys, being unwilling to quitt a certaynty.

The Polanders are exasperated ag^t their King about his marriage without the consent of their nobles;³ & the Venetians, to pacify the dragon, have sacrificed near 20 of their most beautifull nunns, whom they took out of the monasteries with main force to furnish the G^d Seign^r’s Seraglio; but they & the rich presents were cast away.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Feb. 22th, 1670.

From Venice it is certainly reported that the *Republique* has within the 2 last months lost 14 vessells by shipwreck, worth in all

¹ D. Luis Ramon d’Aragon, fifth Duc de Segorbe.

² René Potier, Duc de Gesvres.

³ See footnote 1, p. 54.

by computacion 800^m ducats, w^{ch} the Rep. had given out orders for the payment of, but are since revoked.

The stones of the little windows where are layd 'les denonces pour les affaires d'estat' in the Palace of St Mark have been defiled, as well as the vessells where the *Ballotations* were usually made, & 2,000 ducats offred for ye discovery of the author.

Letters out of the Conclave of ye 24th past say that Vidoni¹ was the most likely to bee chosen, that the 2 great factions of Barbarini & Chigi were more powerfull than the other 3 of France, Spain, & Rospigliosi.

'In questo stato di cose l' un et l' altre de lucro si trova forte por l' esclusione de che non vogliano, ma debole por l' inclusione di che desiderano, e pero ciascuno d' esti por accrescere la sua parte va nell' altre fazioni cercando soccorso. Rospigliosi con poco seguito se trattiene indifferente ne con l' unerse scopertamente ad una della parti vuol perder quell' occasione che le congiunture tra il combattimento tra piu debolarsi d' esser il piu debole d' accantarsi alla Metz. L' spagnuoli sotto Medici paiono inclinati ad andar con Chigi trovando forte nell' collegio desto i primi inclusi dalle corona et i francesi ch' punto sin' hora non hanno data segno di particular inclinatione fuorche a Rospigliosi. Da queste si cava un' apparente di confusione et un' irresolutesia de capi a muoversi, dubitando ciascuno coll' esser il primo a saltare in campo de dar all' avversario occasioni d' attacarlo et romperlo.'

The French King is making a regulation for his Infantry w^{ch} is framed by Messrs de Pradel,² de Bret,³ & Martinais,⁴ to this effect: that in every regiment there shall bee a Sub-Lieutenant-Collonel; that the 4 first captains of every Regiment of foot shall have a pencion of 1,000 crowns amongst them & each of them five dead pays.⁵ The souldiers pay shall bee augmented by 'un liart' a day, & when any troops shall bee commanded out the Captains shall command them according to their commissions whenas, before, the Captains of the Picardy Regiment, tho' never so young & ignorant, commanded all the Captains of the Regiments that came behind that of Picardy.

¹ Petro Vidoni.

² Francois de Pradel.

³ Alexandre le Bret.

⁴ Jean de Martinet, killed at the siege of Doesburg in 1672.

⁵ *I.e.* 'morte-payes,' reduced pay given to officers or soldiers incapable of serving in the army.

The camp of S^t Sebastians comes into play again in May, where the King intends to have the number, compleat, 12 thousand men, w^{ch} shall be relieved in June by the like number & again in August, whereby hee will see all his troops that are not of absolute necessity for the defence of his garrisons. But the troops of his owne house shall not bee encamped.

I hear that the Chev^r de Lorrain is at Chasteau Vif, near Marseilles. On Saturday last 'les donnations entre vifs,' w^{ch} King Casimire makes to the Duke of Anguion¹ of some lands belonging to him in Naples, were signed before the publick notaries, & it's thought the P^{ce} of Condé may now exchange them with the Sieur of Manchivini² for the Dutchy of Nevers. Upon ye whole an expresse is dispatched to Mons^r de Gourville at Madrid, who has as well this as some other affaires to negotiate in that Court, from whence the last letters of the 5th currant advise that the ArchBp of Thoulouse was expected there in 12 days.

The Savoyards proclaime here the extraordinary civilities they received in England.

The King's journey into Flanders is not contradicted.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : February 22nd, 1670.

Since the last I presumed to trouble your Lopp with I have seen letters from the Conclave dated the 24th past, w^{ch} say that Vidoni was most publickly thought upon for their election ; that Barberini is not only head of the Urbans & some of the Innocentia's, but of other Innocentia's formerly called 'Squadrone.'³ Chigi is head of a great faction adversary to the former, & rather than they will endure the election of either it's thought they may agree upon a third.

It is most certain these 2 factions are more considerable than those of Spain, France, or Rospigliosi. Spain, under Medici, seems inclined to side with Chigi, finding them powerfull in the Colledge & friends to that Crowne.

¹ Duc d'Enghien.

² Philippe Julien Mancini-Mazarini, Duc de Nevers (1639-1707).

³ The 'squadronisti' consisted of the cardinals created by Innocent X. They were Omodei, Ottoboni, Imperiali, Boromeo, and Azzolino (Ranke, *The Popes of Rome*, vol. iii. p. 397).

France has not yet appeared to bee anyways particularly inclined, unlesse it be to the Rospigliosi, & the last seem as yet indifferent, expecting a conjuncture more securely favourable for their declaring themselves, every one being very cautious of appearing in the field, fearing to bee exposed too much to the lash of its adversaries.

In fine, my Lord, the state is said to bee this, that each faction is strong to ye exclusion of others, but not for the election of whom they desire; wherefore at present they all are busy in endeavouring to strengthen their party by some of the other factions.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: March 1st, 1670, S.N.

Since my last by Mr Williamson's servant, Card^l Retz has dispatched a courier hither with letters to the King of the 4th of Feb. to give his M. Xtian Ma^{ty} an account of affaires in y^e Conclave, hee having (as the French say) 'le secret de la part de la France.'

The Duke of Chaulnes made a very elegant speech to the Colledge, in w^{ch} hee much supported the H. of y^e Rospigliosi by reviving the memory of the late good Pope Clement 9th, but hee perceived his discourse not to bee soe favourably received as hee imagined. Severall of the Cardinals, being much indisposed, have quitted the Conclave, among whom Piccolomini¹ is much in danger.

The two factions of the Barbarini & Chigi continue strong enough to oppose each other, but not to promote the designs of either. To avoyd prolixities it is believed they may choose one of the oldest of them all, Nerli or Altierry,² who are more than 80 years old.

The French party & influence grows still greater there, while none of the 3 Spanish Card^{ls} appear.

From Venice, of y^e 8 & 10th past, that Republick has a succession of misfortunes by the late tempestuous weather. Four of their ships on their way to conduct the Chev^r de Molino³ towards Constantinople were driven into a port by ill-weather, where were

¹ Celio Piccolomini.

² Paulatius Altieri, Pope Clement X., was eventually chosen from this party. He died in 1676.

³ The Venetian ambassador to Turkey.

the Adm^l & other vessells of Tripoly, with whom the Venetians fought a long time, but were at length forced to yield, y^e Adm^l having more than 600 men on board.

The Senate is preparing of new presents to bee sent to the Grand Seign^r in lieu of those cast away, & intend to raise some horse to strengthen some places in Italy & Dalmatia.

The Vizier armes many ships & galleys, suspected ag^t Italy. A courier from Portugal, dispatched thence the 25th of Jan. towards Rome, passing through Lions, reported the P^{cc} Dⁿ Pedro to bee dangerously ill, as my last informed y^r Lpp with uncertainty.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 3^d, 1670,

Letters from Constantinople say that, notwithstanding the endeavors of the Valaquⁱ, the Gd S^r [Grand Seigneur] had caused his brother to bee strangled,¹ & those from Maltha of the 24th Jan. advise that the Gd S^r refuseth to ratify the Peace w^{ch} the Gd Visier had concluded with the Venetians, & that for these three reasons: (1) The Visier ought not to have left the *Republique* any places in the kingdom of Candy. 2. That hee had given to them the city & territories of Clissa, in Dalmatia, with the lands depending on the 3 forts left to y^e Xtians for the habitation of ye Greeks that quitted Candy, which make as great an extent as ye Island of Candy, & yields a greater revenue. The 3^d reason, that the Visir ought to have demanded the islands of Santorino, Nixia, Scorpentic,² Milo, & Antiniclo, w^{ch} the Turks pretend are dependances of Candia, & for these reasons the Vizier did not well in agreeing to a Peace.

The last L^{res} from Switzerland advise that $\frac{3}{4}$ of ye towne of Lion, in the countrey of Vallay, have been consumed by subterranean flames, thought to bee proceeding from y^e mineralls; that the Pont de Basle, on the Rhine, has been broken by the ice, as well as that of Soleuse, the last City having suffer'd much by inundations. The affairs in Swits^d are very peaceable, they having, without money, quitted their animosity ag^t y^e French & reinbraced the interest of France.

The French have not finished any negotiations with the P^{ccs} of Germany.

¹ A rumour without any foundation, as Souleimann II. died in 1691, and Ahmed II. in 1695.

² Scarpanto.

A petty accident, w^{ch} may not be unworthy y^r knowledge, befell the P^{oe} W^m of Furstenburg (ye person you have heard so much of), much to his mortification. Going from Berlin hee by neglect left on his table his *escritoire*, wherein were all his papers & instructions from France in cypher, with the cypher itselfe, & at ye place where hee dined having perceived his error, returned immediately & desired ye Elector to cause ye gates to bee shutt, w^{ch} done, after much inquiry, it was returned to him, but certainly they had time enough to peruse his instructions by ye cypher & given him ye occasion of making all possible speed hither, where hee is at present.

With the presents ye King sent Madam among others there [was] a 'Cassette de Maroquin de Levant garny d'argent doré,' wherein are 20 purses, in each 100 *louis d'or*, & a letter, 'par laquelle il luy mandoit qu'avant le déplaisir de ce qu'elle n'estoit pas à la cour pour mettre aux lotteries, il y avoit voulu mettre à son intention et en son nom; que la chose avoit si bien reussy qu'il luy envoyoit ce qu'elle lui avoit gagnée.'

The rest of ye presents of greater value were—1. A 'Cassette du bois de Senteur des Indes,' never before seen in France, wherein was a rich toilette; ye 2^d of wood of Calembour, wherein were great quantities of trim'd gloves & many rarities; and the 3^d was of Cedar, wherin was a little trunk of massy gold, in w^{ch} were many rings, jewells, & seals in stones.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: March 5th, 1670.

The Grand Balets have been danced over & over again to wellcome Mons^r & Madam. On Munday the King caused a generall review to bee made, where were all the Court ladies.

His journey into Flanders is spoken of more than ever, tho' the neighbours may sing Peace for this year.

It is pleasant to see the proposalls made by criticks here to the Ministers of State about ruining the Dutch trade.

The conclusion of all is nothing lesse than a league between Eng^l, France, Sweden¹ & Denmark,² Munster & ye Elector of Colen, & y^e manner to keep ships in all parts to stop their passage.

¹ Charles II.

² Ferdinand III.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 8th, 1670, S.N.

The last letters from Rome of the 17th past say thus :—the divisions of the Conclave growing still greater between Barbarini & Chigi, it is thought a Pope will not suddainly bee chosen, because none of them have yet discovered the truth of their intentions. Vidoni is looked but coldly on at present, the oldest of y^e Card^{ls} being now ag^t him, Chigi himselve withdrawing from him, finding severall of his creatures to have an aversion for him.

Two days before, Cardinals Antony & Spada¹ being indisposed, went out of the [],² since when Card^l de S^{te} Croix went out. Card^{ls} Caraffa³ & Corsini⁴ are much better.

Chigi, tho' much indisposed by a sore throat, for w^{ch} hee had been 2 blooded in ye tongue & kept his bed, would not quitt the Conclave, for fear a Pope might bee chosen in his absence.

The Spannish Ambassador visits all the *parloirs* of y^e Conclave, solliciting his partisans for a speedy & favourable election; y^e Portugall Amb^r does the like. Bona is looked on as a person independant, tho' secretly supported by y^e French. The H. Colledge has answered the French King's L^{re} with their humble thanks for his sending an Ex^{ty} Amb^r, and Card^l Bouillon having had some voyces *dans les scrutines* the old zelot Card^{ls} have made a great noyse, being much offended, as if it were ag^t the oath they had taken about voting, because hee is but 27 years old.

It was the Card^l Maldaquin⁵ that made this *brique*, who is esteemed the only foole in the Conclave. Card^l Anthony, at his leaving the Conclave, sayd confidently in generall termes to one of his friends that ye election would bee tedious, his brother, Barbarin, being opiniastred, with all his creatures, rather to dye there than suffer a creature of Chigi's to be elected, & the latter is as obstinate on the other side ag^t Barbarine. As to the crownes, the election of Elci⁶ is excluded by France, and Bonaiti as much by Spain, as well as Bonelli⁷ & Celsi. Bona hopes much from all the divisions.

At Rome there is a picture of ye little ship of S^t Peter, wherein is represented Card^l Altieri at the *poupe*, Barbarin at the sterne,

¹ Orazio Filippo Spada.

³ Carlo Caraffo.

⁶ Scipione d' Elci.

⁴ Nerio Corsini.

² A blank in the MS.

⁵ Cardinal Maldachini.

⁷ Carlo Bonelli.

Chigi in the hold, Rospigliosi at a little table perusing the sea chart, Azzolin¹ grimping at y^c little mast, Deley² & Vidoni at the oars [oars].

Genes, Feb. 16th. It is sayd that a privateer of Maltha, commanded by a French Chevalier, had lately taken a Turk laden with merchandise bound from Alexandria for Constantinople; 100 Turks were made prisoners, about 26 killed, & the prize worth 70 thousand crowns.

What I told you in my last is confirmed, that the Gd Seign^r refuseth to ratify the Peace made with the Venetians, unless that y^c Republick shall first quitt the possession of Suda, Spinalonga, & Garabuzza.³

It is written that P^{cc} Charles of Lorrain having with much affliction learnt the death of his father,⁴ proposed himselfe to goe, 'pour s'aboucher avec le duc Charles, son oncle,'⁵ on the frontiers of Germany & Lorraine.

The French Minister Gremonville att Vienna has had severall conferences with P^{cc} Charles about his succession to the territories of his uncle, & it is thought that France is in some *pour parler* with that sovereigne towards an adjustment of that matter, & that Mons^r de Choisy,⁶ Intendant in the 3 Bishopricks of Thous,⁷ Metz, & Verdun, has instructions to discourse that matter speedily with the Duke of Lorraine at Nancy.⁸

The S^r de la Mothe,⁹ brother-in-law to ye S^r de Gourville, is returned from Spain, & reports abroad that the Spaniards have promised the P^{cc} of Condé ye payment of 1,100,000^l due to him, in case hee will have some patience for y^c paym^t of it, for the performance of w^{ch} they offer diverse assignations.

The King has given leave to Père Annat, a Jesuite & his con-

¹ Decio Juniore Azzolini.

² Scipione Deley.

³ Garabuse. See p. 71.

⁴ François III. de Lorraine, brother of Charles IV., Duc de Lorraine.

⁵ Charles IV., Duc de Lorraine.

⁶ Jean Paul de Choisy, Intendant at Metz 1663-1673.

⁷ Toul.

⁸ Charles IV., Duc de Lorraine, had concluded a treaty at Montmartre, in 1662, by which on his death his estates were to pass to the King of France, to the exclusion of his nephew Charles (Koch and Schoell, *Histoire abrégée des Traités de Paix*, vol. i. p. 347).

⁹ François du Riou, Sieur de la Mothe.

fessor, to retire from Court, & 6 Jesuits having been presented to the King's choice, hee has taken Père Ferrier, who begins that function after Easter.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 12th, '70, S.N.

I hear, somewhat mystically, that some Princes are brooding a better understanding between France & Spain, from w^{ch} the latter promiseth itselfe great advantages.¹

From Brussells my correspondent tells mee there is some likelihood that the Spannish Court may hearken to the great overtures made them by the Duke of Lorrain, in case they shall make his nephew, P^{ce} Charles, Governor of Flanders.

These days past I have seen many brasse guns of all sizes brought out of the Arsenal & sent by water towards Rouen, & nothing is more ye publick & most hectoring discourse than of the strength of the Crowne by sea even to the disparagem^t of all others. Others talk of a patriarch, but it is most likely that no Pope may be yet chosen this halfe year.

Since my last, 'au rapport de M. Sanguien, doyen de la Cour des Aides, on a fait passer un arrest d'enregistrement de la declaration du Roy, portant revocation du droit d'entrepôt que les vaisseaux estrangers ont esté obligé de payer cy-devant, ce qui semble estre un petit acheminement au restablissement de l'ancienne liberté de Commerce.' I cannot yet tell how to explain it to you (by the next you shall have it printed), whether it bee tonnage of 50 sous or no, but I cannot imagine it to be that.

The King's journey is fixed, if nothing intervene.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : March 19th, 1670.

This morning I received a letter from Madrid of the 6th curr^t, containing the confirmation of the Conde de Molina's going for England with the character of Ex^{ty} Ambassador, where his stay will bee short, from whence he is to come to this Court; that many believe the Marq^s of Agrapoly,² named by the Court of Spain to goe Envoye to England, will bee countermaunded.

¹ 'The great advantages' would be the succession of the Dauphin to the throne of Spain if Charles II. died without issue.

² D. Gaspar Ibañez de Segovia, Marquis d'Agropoli.

As to the progresse the King resolves on into Flanders his Ma^{ty} had concluded thus—

From S^t Germain's to Sanbir,¹
 Compein,²
 Han,
 S^t Guentin,³
 Landersy,⁴
 Quesney,⁵ 2 nights,
 Avenne,⁶
 Bernardbourg,
 Phillipville,⁷ 2 nights,
 Charleroy,
 Bizoh,⁸
 Athe, 3 nights,
 Tourny,⁹ 3 nights,
 Odenarde,¹⁰
 Courtray,
 Lisle,¹¹ four nights,
 Bethune, 2 nights,
 S^t Venant,
 Bergoen,¹²
 Dunquerque, 4 nights,
 Gravelinne,
 Calais,
 Boulogne,
 Hedin,¹³
 Arras.¹⁴

But, though this was 2 days since fully resolved on, I hear now the King has altred his mind & will take another way; w^{ch} way soever it bee, he hath ordred sufficient numbers of foot to lye in the severall places where hee intends to lodge. And as to commands, they are as followeth:—

Rubentel,¹⁵ Capitain of ye Guards, shall command the 12 companies of foot w^{ch} are to march towards Lisle in a few days.

¹ Senlis.² Compiègne.³ St. Quentin.⁴ Landrecies.⁵ Quesnoy.⁶ Avesnes.⁷ Philippeville.⁸ Binche.⁹ Tournay.¹⁰ Oudenarde.¹¹ Lille.¹² Bergues.¹³ Hesdin.¹⁴ Arras.¹⁵ Denys Louis de Rubentel de Mondétour.

The Comte de Soisson¹ shall command, during the King's progresse, the 'Maison Royale' in quality of Lieutenant Generall. The Marquis of Rochefort² shall command the other troops of the King's house w^{ch} are not 'de la Quadre³ Royale,' as the Dolphin's Regiment.

Mareschal d'Humières & M. d'Estrades⁴ are to command 'les petits corps separéz.'

The King has named two gentlemen of his bed chamber to goe with congratulations to Poland & condolences to Denmark. His Ma^{ty} hath putt on purple for the death of that King, but intends to wear it only 12 days.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : March 22th, 1670, S.N.

Herewith your Lopp receives a letter from Madrid, to w^{ch} I will add what I have seen in others hence by the same ordinary, wherein there was no discourse but of leagues, particularly of one between the Emperour, Spain, & Sweden, that in case of an Ottoman Invasion Sweden shall assist the Emp^r with 12^m foot & 5,000 horse, & that they shall be allowed 30^m pieces of $\frac{8}{8}$ a month respectively by the Emp^r & Spain.

If there bee really any such thing I suppose it is with a Proviso that the 3ple Alliance can dispence with the absence of those troops.

A league offensive & defensive is also said to bee 'sur le tapis' between Spain & Holland, if either of their dominions shall bee invaded.

The ArchBpp of Toulouze is arrived att Madrid, & splendid preparacions are making for his entertainment.

From Constantinople advise of the 30th December says that

¹ Eugène Maurice de Savoie, Comte de Soissons (1633-1673), son of Charles Bourbon, Comte de Soissons. He married Olympe Mancini, one of the nieces of Cardinal Mazarin; became Governor of Champagne; in 1672 was created Lieutenant-General. He took a prominent part in the 'Passage of the Rhine,' and was on his way to join the army of Turenne, when he died in Westphalia, the 7th of June, 1673.

² Louis Henri d'Aloigny, Marquis de Rochefort, made marshal in 1675.

³ 'Escadron.'

⁴ Godefroi, Comte d'Estrades, made marshal in 1675.

the Grand S^r was then at Salonique to passe the winter, where hee expects his Vizier at Spring, to mold his designs of returning to Constantinople, or rather, as most believe, ye making a new warre, and that my L^d Amb^r Harvey¹ was on his way towards Larissa, but stayd at Salonique untill the Gd S^r came thither.

The letters from Rome speak more misticall than ever & it's thought noe Pope may bee chosen in a long time; the factions cannot in the least agree, & some believe that, 'nonobstant que le Cardinal Bona soit dans l'agitation et l'irresolution des parties, le S^t Esprit pourroit bien se jouer d'eux en sa faveur.'

The Chevalier de Fourilles² hath bought of the Duc de Coaslin³ the charge of 'Maistre de Camp, general de la Cavalerie légère,' & towards the payment of [it] is (*sic*) agreed upon, the King hath given him 20^m crowns.

The *disordres* at Villa Franca are accomodated, soe that Mons^r le Comte de Chamilly⁴ with the three thousand men he should have march'd with into Roussillon are countermanded.

The King has lately established in Paris 'une chambre du domaine,' consisting of 12 Masters of Requests.

The French discourse in this place at present is that the Conte de Furstenberg, nephew of the Elector of Colen, hath obtained of his uncle, for a certain sum of money, a passage for the King of France from Charleroy to Liège, that he may gett near Holland without treading foot on Spannish ground.

Yesterday the King was at a generall review, where were all the Guards, both French & Suisse.

The Prince de Ligny is expected to passe by this place incognito towards his Vice Royalty of Sicily.

The French make a foolish pretence for their sending more foot into Flanders; because, say they, the Flemings reforme some of their troops only to augment others, wherfore 12 companies of his [the King's] Guards are marching towards Lisle & Tournay. His Ma^{ty} has lately received a passe from the Queen Regent of Spain, in case, in his voyage into Flanders, hee have occasion to passe on ye Spannish territories.

¹ Sir Daniel Harvey, English ambassador to Turkey.

² Jean-Jacques Chauméjan, Chevalier (afterwards Marquis) de Fourilles.

³ Armand de Cambout, Duc de Coislin

⁴ Hérard Bouton, Comte de Chamilly.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 26th, 1670.

Y^r letter mentioning expence I could wish it had also added reimbursement for many things, I having squeezed out of my small *fond*.

I must again recommend Jean Seinus to y^r particular care, because I am told, since my last, that when hee was here hee received money of Mons^r Colbert. There can surely bee no harme in watching him, since what I tell you is purely out of zeale to his Ma^{tie}'s service.

Mons^r has not seen Madame these six dayes ; I mean not spoken to her.

The Count de Vivonne goes Ambassador at ye head of a fletee towards the Grand Seigneur to make a Treaty of Commerce & a League, w^{ch} the Emperour may have reason to dread the effects of.¹

I have a letter from S^r John Finch² of the 10th curreant, w^{ch} sayes that the Principi di Lacelli, Generall of ye Conclave, hath declared his resolution to lett no more Cardinalls come out, nor any that are out to re-enter the Conclave, they being able, under pretence of indisposition, to negotiate with forreigne Princes ; which declaration hee justifies by a Bull of Pius V to that effect, whereby Antonio, Barbarini, Bonelli, Nini³ Aeguavina,⁴ Orsino, Palavicino, & Gabrelli⁵ are at present excluded.

The Flemings, wee hear, are upon their guards on the frontier, fearing a surprise without any reason.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : March 26th, 1670, S.N.

Wee hear that the young Prince of Piedmont,⁶ only son to the Duke of Savoye, continues still in a weak condicion, & most of that Court apprehend that hee is not long lived.

The Duke of Longueville is dayly expected here from Rome,

¹ This treaty was not made until June 1673 (see *Recueil d'Actes Internationaux de l'Empire Ottoman*, par Gabriel Effendi Moradounghian, i. 136).

² Brother of the Earl of Winchelsea and English resident at the Court of Tuscany.

³ Jacques Nini.

⁴ Aquaviva.

⁵ Julio Gabrielli.

⁶ Victor Amédée II. (1666-1732) ; succeeded to the dukedom of Savoy in 1675.

where hee has been made priest, soe y^t it is thought hee will quitt the former title & leave it to ye C. de St Paul, his brother.¹

It is sayd by some, (but it seems most unlikely,) that the King will goe to the Parliament of Paris before his Flemish voyage to have severall edicts verified, among others one for the suppression of ye Receivours of Rents of L'Hostel de Ville, reserving onely two; another suppressing all the Receivours of Taxes, & ye gentlemen on the place shall doe that affaire, who shall bee *accountable* to the treasurer for all moneys they shall receive; another suppressing 'La Paulette et les Epices,' for ye ease of the people; his Ma^y intending they shall have justice *gratis*, as in Spain, to w^{ch} end the President's 'Procureurs Generaux' & Lieutenants Civil, Criminall & Police, shall have commissions for their respective charges & pensions.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : April 2^d, '70.

Though I have yours of the 17th & a great desire to pay all the good offices I can to Mr Ellis,² I cannot learn where to find him. As soon as I shall [do] so, your directions shall be followed.

The Venetian Ambassador Molino is still at Candy wth the G^d Vizir, intending to accompany him to the Ottoman Court, which resolves not to ratify ye Peace, unlesse ye Venetians will make an exchange of all their dominions near Candy for lands & places in Dalmatia as far as the Baltique Sea.

As soon as the King returns from Flanders it is sayd he will make another progresse in Languedoc to take a view of the Canal³ so long talked of, & I am assured that 18 months more may render y^t great work compleat.

The letters from Holland speak of the Prince of Orange's⁴ going for England to see his uncle our Souveraign.

About two daies agoe my Lord Amb^r made his first formal visit to the King of Poland, who then kept his bed.

On Munday night last Monsieur & Madam came to Paris, well reconciled, but her journey into England is not positive.

¹ Jean Louis, Comte de St. Pol.

² John Ellis, Under-Secretary of State.

³ The Canal of Languedoc, or 'Canal des Deux-Mers,' begun in 1667 and finished in 1681.

⁴ William, Prince of Orange, son of William II. of Orange and Mary, daughter of Charles I.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Aprill 5th, 1670, S.N.

The courier from Madrid brings us letters of ye 29th past & an account of the Marquis d'Aytona's being dead after a small fitt of sicknesse; that the Junta de Gobierno desired the Queen not to dispose of any of his vacant charges without their advice, notwithstanding which shee bestowed that of Mayor-domo-Mayor on the Duke of Pathana,¹ & that of one in the Junta de Gobierno on the Constable of Castille,² much to the disappointment of the Marquis C. Rodrigo,³ & his place of Mayor in Alcantara, worth 16 thous^d p. of $\frac{8}{9}$, is given to his son.⁴ But the command of the Regiment of Guards is not yet disposed of, & those that before solicited much for a reforme doe more now for the commission. The French Amb^r is there, & still his busines is sayd to bee an exchange with a marriage.

Advice from Venice says that the Vizier has playd the good servant & settled what contributions the Island of Candy shall send the G^d S^r, viz^t, yearly provide & pay 10,000 foot, 500 horse, 9 galleys, & in money 400,000 crowns.

All letters from Germany agree in a prospect of troubles, the Hungarians arming vigorously, & are certainly encouraged by some who desire to divert the Emperour.

Wee hear from Flanders of still greater alarmes & preparacions, greater than when their enemies were in earnest, att which the M. Xtian King is somew^t concerned, & hath complained of in a letter to the Queen Regent, alledging his peaceable inclinations, having referred the difference about dependances to arbitrage.

The affaires att Rome grow madder than ever. Rospigliosi had lately 33 voyces & wanted but 7 to make him Pope, w^{ch} had compleated $\frac{2}{3}$ ^{ds}.

Upon the disorders of the factions, the Governor of ye Conclave hath declared that if they bee not speedy in an election hee will retrench part of their Dyett & starve y^m into an agreement.

¹ D. Rodrigo de Silva, Duke of Pastrano.² Don Inigo-Melchior Fernandez de Velasco, 7th Duc de Frias, governor of the Pays-Bas 1668-1670 (1629-1696).³ Marquis de Castel Rodrigo.⁴ Don Antonio Velasco.

The Chancellor ¹ has been lately very ill & it's thought hee will not live, whereupon people discourse of a successor, either Mons^r le Tellier or Mons^r Colbert in England.

Mons^r d'Apravant,² Capt. of ye Guards, is ordered by y^e King with all speed to goe to Aras & hasten the finishing of the Cittadell.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Aprill 9th, 1670.

Yesterday the King came to Paris, visited some churches, admired Val de Grace, & was present at a gossoping in the Palais Royal, where Madam's young daughter, ye Duchesse de Valois,³ was formally baptised & had to her godfather ye Dauphin, & ye compliment was performed by Mademoiselle ⁴ & ye Queen.

Ye French begin to repent of their peace with Algiers, because they find their ships taken by those pirats under Salley & other colours. Be pleased to take notice of a particular in the Treaty made by Turelle,⁵ that among ye restorations 'de part et d'autre' an English ship retaken from these pirats was putt again into their hands. I presume the civil law, not that of Xtianity, will not justify such an inhuman proceeding.

To Lord Arlington.

April 9th, 1670, S.N.

A Guernzey merchant dying lately in this place, his goods were seized on by *droit d'aubaine*,⁶ but upon my L^d Ambassadors complaint we are in hopes ye King will dispence with what our former treatys have granted to the subjects of England.

Now ye King's voyage draws nigh & ye courtiers prepare in earnest; his troops are upon the place by this time, but (his inclinations whatever they bee) it's generally believed his inten-

¹ Pierre Séguier, Duc de Villemor. He was succeeded by Etienne d'Aligre. Le Tellier did not become Chancellor until 1677.

² François de la Mothe-Villebert, Vicomte d'Aspremont, made marshal in 1677.

³ Anne Marie, Mademoiselle de Valois (1669-1728).

⁴ Anne Marie Louise d'Orléans, daughter of Gaston Jean Baptiste, Duc d'Orléans and brother of Louis XIII.

⁵ Turelles Thiballier, 'chef d'escadre.'

⁶ The *droit d'aubaine* was abolished in 1787, so far as British subjects were concerned.

tions are not to doe anything but view his new fortifications, w^{ch}, I am told by many of judgement, are the best in Europe, & am promised the modell's but not without expence.

The merchants of Jersey & Guernsey complain much of an *arrest* lately forcing them to sell their stockins within 3 days after their coming to Paris, or else they shall bee confiscated, an invention to break ye neck of that small trade also, for they must sell them to losse, not being allowed time for their marktett.

Here is a discourse as if the Most Xtian King would alter his 'Grand Conseil' & joyne the charges of Councillor in that to the 'Maistres des Requestes.'

The French expect with impatience to have a Pope of their faction, ye Duke of Chaulnes in his letters promising much from his conferences with the Queen of Sweden,¹ an *admiresse* of the 'Squadre² volant.'

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Aprill 16th, 1670, S.N.

The like dismall account I perceive that you have already had of *affaires* in Hungary is brought hither by a Courrier dispatched in hast from Vienna by the S^r of Gremonville, this King's *Envoyé* there.

The discourse of this place upon that subject is joyfull, because the souldiers say they shall [have] warres again, & thus they ground it: the Sweeds' Army may assist the Emperour, & the French one may fall upon Flanders without any apprehension of being opposed by that body of men. *A propos de Flandre*, here follows the exact rout & course the King intends to take without any alteration.

On Aprill the 28th hee goes from S^t Germain's to Senlis, 12 leagues.

		Leagues
29th	Compiègne	8
30	Noyen [Noyon]	5
May		
1	} St Quentin	9
2		

¹ Christine, queen of Sweden, abdicated in 1654 in favour of her cousin Charles Albert, and lived for some time in Rome.

² 'Escadron.'

		Leagues
May	3	
	4	Quesney [Quesnoy] . . . 10
	5	Landrecy 3
	6	Avesnes 4
	7	Mariembourg [Mariembourg] 9
	8	
	9	Philipville 4
	10	Charleroy 5
	11	Binches 6
	12	} Ath 7
	13	
	14	
	15	} Tournoy 6
	16	
	17	
	18	Oudenard 7
	19	} Courtrey [Courtray] . . 5
	20	
	21	
	22	} Lisle 5
	23	
	24	
	25	} Douay 7
	26	
	27	} Arras 5
	28	
	29	} Bethune 6
	30	
	31	
June		
	1	Hesdin 10
	2	Montrueil [Montreuil]. . 5
	3	Boulogne 7
	4	} Calais 8
	5	
	6	} Dunquerque 8
	7	
	8	
	9	
	10	

					Leagues
June 11	Calais again	.	.	.	8
12	Boulogne	.	.	.	7
13	Montrueil	.	.	.	7
14	} Abbéville	.	.	.	10
15		.	.	.	
16	Poix	.	.	.	8
17	Beauvais	.	.	.	8
18	Beaumont	.	.	.	8
19	S ^t Germain	.	.	.	8

The Duchess of Elboeuf¹ & many ladys of that quality begin to scruple going with Madam to Dover, doubting about the *Tabouret*, as I hear.

For fear you have not y^r L^{res} from Spain in time, I send you the extracts thence w^{ch} I received from S^r W. Godolphin, to w^{ch} I may add a circumstance I have seen in other letters thence, that the Ministers are in suspence what answer to returne to y^e French Amb^r (whose publick audience was *magnifique* & keeps his bed for a kick of a horse) in the matter of Arbitrage, that Court being inclined also to name two & joyne the Emp^r & States of Holland in the reference w^{ch} the English Envoye (say the letters) much opposed, as a matter y^t would bee displeasing to his master.

My L^d Falconberg² is yet at Lions. Last week dyed the famous Mons^r Renard, who had been severall months possessed by the devill & disdivilised by the *Capucins*. Hee has left a great estate to ye King. His house was in the Thuliries.

To Lord Arlington.

Aprill 19th, 1670, S.N.

The last letters from Rome say that Card^l Antonio, who is recovered of his dropsy, was reentred the Conclave, where the differences were growne greater than ever; that C^l de Retz had lately 34 voyces, but everybody was surprised to see the Curate of the Parish S^t Louis in Rome had 33 votes, tho' hee were no Cardinal. This proceeding has revived the memory that formerly,

¹ Elisabeth de La Tour de Bouillon, eldest daughter of Frédéric Maurice de La Tour, and second wife of Charles III., Duc d'Elbœuf.

² Thomas Belasyse, Viscount Fauconberg, married Mary, daughter of Protector Cromwell.

upon a great division in the Conclave, they searched in the deserts for the most virtuous hermite they could find. Many were of opinion Card^l Odescalchi¹ might bee elected by an agreement of all the factions, but hee excused himselfe as uncapable of soe great a charge. Your Lopp had by the last Ord^{ry} a track of this King's *voyage*. Hee goes on the 28th, & will have in his owne coach the Queen, Monsieur, Madam, Mad^{lle}, Mad^e de Bethune,² & Mesdames de Valière & Montespan. The Dolphin will goe in his owne coach with his govenour, the Duke of Montausier,³ & severall persons of quality.

They will have an escorte or guard of 6,000 horse, commanded by M^r le Comte de Lauzun, great bodys of foot being waylayd to bee 'sur les aisles de la marche.'

I am told by many, but cannot averre its truth, that the King has an inclination to revive an antient charge the Kings his predecessors made use of, y^e making a Constable of France, & that hee hath already named the Marq^s of Peguelin, his favourite, for high dignity.

The reports here are as if the Spaniards were in a considerable body on the frontiers, expecting the King's coming, although my letters from Brussels advise they have scarce men enough to defend Dexmund & Ypre. The Chev^r de la Taille,⁴ nephew to the ArchBp of Paris, having about 18 months since killed a gentleman,⁵ was last week seized on here. Hee made some resistance & killed an archer. However, at his Uncle's intercession, & that of divers persons of quality hee is released & under his Uncle's protection.

The Commander de Tarre⁶ dyed here last week, much regretted by the King & everybody.

The Comte de Furstenberg was the first man that brought the news of Hungary to the King, who is sayd to bee much afflicted at it.

The East Indy Company has resolved to traffick noe more to the Island of Madagascar, from whence they intend to transport their colonies to an Island a little higher up, more to their advantage, & the King being desirous to encourage that commerce, gives 2 millions of *livres* to the s^d Company to make good the losses such great undertakings doe ordinarily meet with at their first establishment.

¹ Benedetto Odescalchi, later Pope Innocent XI.

² Marie Louise de la Grange-Arquien.

³ Charles de Sainte-Maure, Marquis, later duc de Montausier (1610-1690).

⁴ Nicolas, Baron du Quesne.

⁵ M. Fubert.

⁶ François de Rochechouart, Chevalier de Jars.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : April 26th, 1670, S.N.

Now all this place is in a hurry, the King going hence after to-morrow, & really by the preparations of gold embroideries for saddle clothes, &c., this voyage must bee of vast expences to the noblemen & attendants.

Some 4 ruffians wanting money on Wednesday last, went to one of the 'Secretaires du Roy,' an old gentleman, & being private with him told him their necessities, w^{ch} he must supply with a thousand pistolls, but the poor gent. endeavouring to cry out for help, was stab'd, & I think dead by this time : two of them are taken.

The King has given a rich abbey, worth 20 thousand *livres* a year, to the S^r de Gremontville at Vienna for his good service in that station. The C^t de Marsan,¹ of kin to the Chev^r de Lorraine, is desired to make it his request to goe to Rome, his presence at Court being sayd to bee very acceptable, since, during the other's absence, ye King has given him 500 *louis d'or* towards his expences thither. Hee convey'd intelligence from a great man to the Chev^r.

The Duke of Chaulnes saith that it may bee many months before a Pope bee chosen, & that those who never so much as could entertain the least hope are thought most likely to succeed in that dignity through the violence of all factions.

The 'Mustapha Aga,' Envoye from the G^d Seign^r, goes hence to-morrow. Monsieur []² goes the King's Amb^r in Ord^{ry} to the Port, upon Mons^r la Hay's being recalled, & the Ext^{ry} Embassy of the Conte de Vivonne is still talked of, & very rich preparations making for the rendring it most magnificent.³

The King hath given 2,000 pistolls to ye gentlewomen that shall attend Madam into England to defray part of their expences.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : April 30th, 1670, S.N.

A courier newly arrived from Rome says there is great likelihood that in a few days a Pope may bee chosen, that by the

¹ Charles de Lorraine-Armagnac, Comte de Marsan, son of Henri, Comte de Harcourt-Armagnac.

² A blank in the MS.

³ See letter dated March 26, 1670.

Duke of Chaulne's great credit & influence on the whole conclave, the great factions are agreed upon Bona, Bonelli, or Francitelli.

By letters from Marseilles we hear the French are very busy in their naval preparacōns, that no sooner one ship is clear but another is putt on the stocks, & all ye seamen they can find are ingaged in the King's service.

A few days since a present was sent the Venetian Ambassador by the King's order, valued at two thousand five hundred pistolls. Hee being great intimate to the Marq^s of Pagneline,¹ it's thought it may have been intended ye Amb^r to incline the other to marry the Duchesse of Vaujour.²

Myn Heer Opdam³ is expected to salute the King on the frontiers as Deputy Ex^{ty} from the States Generall.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: May 4th, 1670.

The Town talks of a League concluded between Eng^d & France, whereby ye former is to have Dunquerque, Ostend, Nieuport, but all is idle.

Since I wrote this ye certain news of ye D. of Lorrain's death is carried to Court by a courier.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

May 7th, 1670.

The King finding some inconveniences in his road he first intended, hath alterd it thus:—

May 6 Ramoizy,
7 Mariembourg,⁴
8 Philipville (stay there ye 9th),
10 Charleroy,
11 Binche,
12 Bavay,
13 Quesnoy (stay there ye 14),
15 Chasteau Cambresy,⁵
16 Chastelet,⁶

¹ Puyguilhem.

² Madame de la Vallière.

³ Jacob, Heer Jan Obdam, Baron van Wassenhaer, son of the great Dutch Admiral.

⁴ Mariembourg.

⁵ Cateau-Cambrésis.

⁶ Le Catelet.

- May 17 Bapaume,¹
 18 Aras, (19,)
 20 Douay, (21,)
 22 Tournay, (23, 24, 25,)
 26 Oudenarde, (27,)
 28 Courtray,
 29 Lisle, (30, 31, & 1 of June,)
 June 2 Bassee,²
 3 Bethune, (4,)
 5 St Paul,³
 6 Ayden,⁴
 7 Montrueil,
 8 Bologne,
 9 Calais,
 10 Dunquerque, (11, 12, 13, 14,)
 15 Calais,
 16 Bologne,
 17 Montrueil,
 18 Abbeville, (19,)
 20 Poix,
 21 Beauvais,
 22 Beaumont,
 23 St Germain.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : May 10th, 1670.

Ther is certainly a Pope chosen, called C^d Altieri, creature to Clement 9th.⁵

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Lisle : May 20th, 1670.

The King is expected here on Fryday, ye 23th, & in order to his glorious reception very magnificent preparations are making for bonfires, fireworks of an extraordinary nature (as particularly

¹ Bapaume.

² La Bassée.

³ St. Pol.

⁴ Hesdin.

⁵ Emilio Altieri (born 1590). He received no important promotion until his 79th year. In November 1669 Clement IX. made him cardinal, but died before he could give him the hat. He went to the Conclave without having received it and was elected Pope, April 29, 1670 (Ranke, *The Popes of Rome*, vol. iii. p. 397).

to blazon the King's & Queen's arms in the air), & fountains to run with wine. The Cittadell is not quite finished; 5,000 men are in garrison here as well as at Arras. The people seem to be better satisfied under the Xtian than the Cath^{ac} Gouvernement,¹ because at present they are exempted from ye duties other subjects of France pay. But I must not omit a passage: As y^e Constable's son Dⁿ A. Velasco passed through the place 2 days since, he, perceiving a great number of souldiers, burgers, & children to follow him out of towne, threw some hundred pistolls & 'patacons'² among them, who in gratitude cryed, 'Vive Charlot, Roy d'Espagne!' This is supposed to be in compliment to what ye Duke of Anguien, Marq^s de Louvoy, &c., did at Cambray. My L^d Amb^r bids me acknowledge & thank you for y^r letter he received last night at his arrivall here. As he approached Arras my L^d Douglas³ drew out all his regiment, gave him volleys, & some great guns from ye ramparts.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Lisle: May 22th, 1670.

I must begin with what is most remarkable, & what, it may be, you have heard before this, viz^t, the Duke of Lorrain's being dead, w^{ch} will hasten (as I am told) ye King's returne to Paris, ye wise men agreeing with the souldiers inclinations that hee has an indisputable right to that duchy.⁴

You will find the foundation of such their pretentions in a book I sent you by Osborne, & already everybody speaks of a visit thereabouts

I told you 2 days since of the King's resolution to come here to-morrow, but he has surprised the towne by entring it this afternoone. His guards are in excellent good order & discipline, consisting of near 5,000 horse, ye officers all in rich embroideries. As soon as ever he passed the great vacancy⁵ he went to see the Cittadell, w^{ch} indeed is the only thing he intended in the visit, & he found much advanced, as are all other his great undertakings.

¹ Spain.

² A Spanish coin.

³ Lord George Douglas of Dumbarton.

⁴ See Koch and Schoell, *Histoire abrégée des Traités de Paix*, vol. i. p. 344. The Duke of Lorraine died in 1675. (See letter dated June 7, 1670.)

⁵ This probably means a review of the troops.

Yesterday his Ex^{cy} went to Tournay,¹ & was entertayned by the Governor with a most sumptuous feast & a sight of ye Cittadell, w^{ch} is near finished, ye halfe moons compleat, as well as all the trenches; its figure is a pentagon, & consequently five strong bastions, on each of w^{ch} are mounted about 30 gunns; in fine y^t place is rendred near impregnable; it hath 2,000 men in garrison.

This goes by Mr. Godolphin, who will be able to tell you y^t Madam goes hence on Saturday for Dunquerque, in order to her embarkation for Dover.²

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: June 7th, 1670.

I must correct a great errour in my last caused by a vulgar mistake of the death of the Duke of Lorraine³ instead of that of the Great Duke of Florence,⁴ on the 25th of May, for which I most humbly crave y^r Lpp's pardon. On Wednesday at night another ex^{ry} courier arrived here, dispatched from Madrid by the French Ambassadour on the 26th past with news of the young King of Spain's being fall'n dangerously ill 'd'un double fièvre tierce,' for which hee had allready been twice blooded, whereupon it has been rumour'd that he was dead.

The Princesse Palatin⁵ is gone hence to make a visit to the Duke of Hanover Brunswick,⁶ her son-in-law, & assist at ye baptisme of ye Duchess,⁷ her daughter's child. Shee being an active Princesse gives a suspicōn to people that are apt to mistrust that shee goes under that pretence only to manage some private negotiations in Germany in favor of France.⁸ The King of Poland conducted her two days journey on her way. The French King is expected here in 3 days—I mean at S^t Germain, near which place he hath caused a larger fort to bee made than that of last year, for the encamping a greater number of souldiers near him. He hath also resolved, as I am informed, to send a party of horse on the frontiers of Lorrain to strengthen those garrisons & have an eye on the motions of that Duke.

¹ Tournay.

² To arrange about the signing of the Treaty of Dover.

³ See letter dated May 22, 1670. ⁴ Ferdinand II., Grand Duke of Tuscany.

⁵ Elizabeth Stuart, wife of Frederick, Elector Palatine and King of Bohemia.

⁶ Ernest Augustus, Elector of Hanover.

⁷ Sophia Charlotte of Hanover.

⁸ Louis was trying to reinforce the league against the Dutch. (Mignet,

L^{res} from Rome of the 22th past advise that on that day the Pope held his first *consistoire*, where hee gave audience to the Portugal Ambassador, the Conde de Prado. Though the Duke of Chaulnes had taken his leave there, hee resolved to stay some time longer, perceiving the face of affaires since the Election to bee much alt^red, because the Card^l Patron is not at all inclined to favor the French interest, who hath prevayled with the Pope to alter ye nomination he had made of severall of the principal officers, to recall the Nuncio at Madrid, with intention to make him Secretary of State, & send the S^r Marescotti,¹ formerly Nuncio in Poland, in his place to Madrid.

Wee hear of a great dispute, likely to have an ill issue, between the Elector of Brandenburg & ye Duke of Bromswich Wolfembutel about a Castle called Reynstein, pretended to by either upon the confiscation of it, with ye rest of the estate belonging to the C. de Tattenbach.² To justify the Elector's pretenc^{on} he has caused 6,000 horse to march & take possession of it.

The Conte de Chamilly with his forces hath dispersed the *Miqueletz*,³ lately in armes in Rossillon, after they had killed severall gentlemen of that countrey for exhorting them to returne to their duty.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June 10th, 1670.

His Ma^{ty} arrived here on Sunday, & Monsieur on Saturday night. Yesterday my Lord Amb^r was at S^t Germain's to compliment him thereupon. On Sunday, in the evening, we received the sad news of my L^d of Northumberland's being dead at Turin, in his returne from Rome, of a violent burning feaver. His corps is on its way, as well his afflicted widow.⁴ The losse of this nobleman is the greater because ye family is extinct for want of issue male. It is rumor'd as if the M. Xtian King will take the advantage of ye *droict d'aubaine* & seise upon all his horses, in number 30, with

¹ Galeazo Marescotti, Archbishop of Corinth.

² Johann Erasmus, Graf Tattenbach. The *London Gazette* (April 13, 1670) speaks of the Count of Tattenbach as 'the principal instrument in the disturbances of Hungary.'

³ Mountaineers.

⁴ Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton.

others goods hee left in France, but I cannot believe that *droict* can stand good, since he dy'd not within ye French dominions.

The only discourse here is of Madam's having gotten England off from the League.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : June 14th, S.N., 1670.

By my Lord Ambassador's order, I was yesterday with the Spannish resident, who told mee that he had a letter from Madrid of the 28th past (two days since the late courier brought the ill news of the King's being in danger), which sayd hee was recovered & very well againe. I then asking him whether the Court of Spaine had as yet taken any further resolu^cō about the reference of the differences in dispute between the 2 Crowns to the arbitrement of England & Sweden, he replyed that those Ministers had never acquainted him with it from the beginning, neither knew hee what they had done. The Spaniards' dilatory proceedings in that affaⁱre is what the French only desire, that they may have a plausible pretext, at the expira^cō of the year limited by this King for the determining those pretentions, to enter upon them by force. There is little likelihood of any action this summer, tho' the King will have his forces near him in case any conjuncture might happen for his advantage. I hear they have made a Peace with Tunis, tho' the French Adm^l that blockt up that port, returning thence, concealed what he had done, & that the Tripolises are at warre with us, ye Consul that left England a year ago not being gone to his charge, which is pretended to bee the reason of the rupture. As to our successe ag^t the Algerines, the English are scoff'd at by all Xtendom for not attempting something considerable upon them, there being at present 23 of their ships in Port. If S^r Thomas Allin's business at Cadix¹ will permit him, everybody in those parts believe he may doe them much harme with fireships, &c.

I hear the King hath resolved to ask 14 millions of the Parliament, or in English money near 12,000,000 pound sterling.

There hath been lately some revolt in Languedoc about paying the dutys, &c., which is lately appeased by the diligence of the King's Lieutenant there; whereupon a Councell hath been lately held here, when the Duke of Vernueil (Governour of that Province)

¹ Cadiz.

dissuaded the King from sending any troops to bee garrison'd upon those people, who are already very poor, & would in such case bee ruined.

The Duke of Nieubourg, we hear, is treating with the Dutch for their sending him 300 thousand crowns, to repaire the breeche made in his affaires by ye great expences he was at in his pretensions to Poland; that otherwise hee shall bee forced, out of necessity, to treat with the French about the Duchy of Julliers.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June 18th, 1670, S.N.

Yesterday I was at St Germain, where the King resolved to goe to Versailles to-morrow for 15 days, about the end of w^{ch} time the camp shall begin. Some days since Père Anat¹ dyed here. The onely discourse at Court is of the King's sending a strong fleet into the Mediteranean to countenance the peace he hath lately made with the pirates, & encourage the Levant Trade; for now all wheels are at worke about breaking ye neck of the Dutch Commerce, & this they imagine to bee one means, viz^t:—Ye remaining at Peace with the Corsaires whilst they are in warre with us & the Dutch, wherby the French vessells will carry away ye greatest part of the Trade, as running no risk by the way.

My Lady of Northumberland is here on her way to England.

Madam is expected this night at St Germain, of whose policies in England much is spoken here, as if the League were quite broken.

I hear that Mons^r Gioze,² residing here in quality of Ex^{ty} *Envoyé* from the King of Denmark, is recalled home, & that Mons^r Marsel is to succeed him.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June 25th, 1670.

It may be this is a peice of news to you—that the Junta at Madrid, after their many delays & protestations of their being inclined rather to loose every fort in Flanders, considering the great charges they are att in maintaining it, rather than stand to

¹ The King's Jesuit confessor.

² M. Give.

a reference upon what they pretend an undoubted right, have resolved to accept of England & Sweden to arbitrate those differences between France & them, and that the next Courier thence will bring their resolution with all its formalities, which is a matter France never expected they could have been brought to, & consequently might in such case have reasonable pretenses to seize that by force w^{ch} Spain would not endeavor to liquidate by an arbitration.

Madam is at St Cloud, ye King & Court at Versailles, where last Sunday they had a great entertainment.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : June 28th, 1670.

I pray, Sr, be pleased if my L^d of St Albans had any articles confirmed here since our King's restoration, contained in that of Commerce made between this Kg & Oliver,¹ to cause them to be sent us, because I have a business on my hands w^{ch} much depends thereupon; and whether if any French merchant or factor dying in England, his moveable estate be confiscated to the King, as they will pretend here to damne a Guernzey factor's goods by the *droict d'aubaine*, altho' by our treaties the French King dispenseth with that right, upon the like reciprocal to his subjects dying in England.

There are some English merchants in company at Marseilles, called Hills,² who have offered my L^d Amb^r punctual information of all that passeth & are particularly ye persons directed for any addresse to St Thomas Allin.

I have in my Ld's name encouraged them.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

1670. Munday morning at 5.

The bearer will tell you that Madam fell sick of ye cholick yesterday about 4 in ye afternoon & dyed a most lamented Princesse this morning at 3. Grief will not let me ad, but refer ye further particulars to his relation, who was present at St Cloud.³

¹ The Protector.

² Francis Hill. (See *S. P., France*, for letters.)

³ Sir John Reresby in his *Memoirs* (p. 82) says, 'The Duke of Orleans had been jealous for some time before of the Comte de Guiche, and if stories be true, not

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: $\frac{\text{July 1 [N.S.]}}{\text{June 21,}}$ 1670, $\frac{6 \text{ July [N.S.]}}{26 \text{ June}}$.

Since what I wrote yesterday in hast & confusion by our courier, I having the occasion by one going from Monsieur & more matter to enlarge to you upon the most deplorable subject, cannot but particularise what I have seen & what I have learnt from the ladys & other persons attending her R. H. On Thursday last Madam found herself a little indisposed, & tho' advised to the contrary, went into a cold bath, as she did also the 2 days following. But on Sunday morning she declared she was not well, without knowing what visible distemper indisposed her. She dined very well, look't still as well as ever till 4 clock in the afternoone, when, finding herselfe hott within, she drank 2 or 3 glasses of juice of chicoris, immediately whereupon finding a merveillous alteration all over, she cryed out she was poyson'd, chang'd her colour in a moment, became blackish & yellow, hollow, & the very symptomes of death appeared in her face. Before my L^d Amb^r could gett to S^t Cloud, at 9 clock, she had had 6 cloysters given her, but I cannot tell you particularly & ye subsequent proceedings of ye physicians. Alas, poor princesse, all along she cryed out that she was in great anguish & paine, desiring to be dissolved. The King was by her almost to the last breath. About 12 o'clock ye Sacrament was administered unto her, at 2 ye extreme unction, & near three this most excellent Princesse gave up the Ghost.

But now, whilst all the world was in tears & extraordinary affliction, you may well aske what did Mons^r. Whi, he immediately employed himself in sesing all Mad^{me}'s money, to a farthing, in any of her ladis' hands, al her jewels, & immediately hastned to Paris, & tumble over her papers.¹

Al ye people believe shee was poisoned. You cannot imagine how her Royall H^s is lamented. But to come to yesterday in the afternoone, when my L^d Amb^r went to S^t Cloud to see her open'd, & what might be the cause of her soe suddain departure (taking ye Chamberlain² & M^r Beaucher, ye Queen of Eng. *chirurgion*, with

without ground. It was said, too, that she was in love with the Duke of Monmouth whilst at Dover.¹

¹ In cipher, deciphered.

² Godefroi Frédéric Maurice de la Tour d'Auvergne, Duc de Bouillon.

him to make observations), where the doctors & ladys deferred her opening till 8 at night, notwithstanding y^t y^c Amb^r pressed to have it done sooner because of better light. No sooner was ye upper skin enter'd but all the house was filled with the most horrible stanch that anybody ever smelt. She was all over rotten within, her liver wasted, & this ye generall opinion of ye Doctors, that they wonder'd not why she dyed then, but that she lived soe long. She was stuff'd up with bile. Beaucher spy'd a little hole in her stomach, w^{ch} the other *chirurgiens* excused to be the hast of ye incisour, though it was blackish within. You will please to pardon this confused account, for all we doe is in disorder. She is to be carryed to St. Denis this night.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

July 2^d, 1670.

I have nothing to say by this but that the King Casimire of Poland is dead on his returne hither—a fatall year. We have no news else; all ye world is in lamentation. Yesterday the King, Queen, & Dolphin came to Paris to condole with Monsieur, & at the same time his Ma^{ty} sent the Duke of Mortimore,¹ Gov^r of Paris, to my L^d Amb^r to assure him that Madam's losse was as sensible to him as if it had been the Queen his wife, & will give him And^{ce} in a day or two.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

July 6th, 1670.

Madam was carried to S^t Denis last night, followed by many coaches & a great number of white torchlights.

The King sent hence on Thursday last 2 troops of his musqueteers, 6 of ye Regim^t of Guards, & 2 drawne of ye *Garde de Corps* towards Vivarets, in order to the suppression of that rebellion.

They went very unwillingly, because they shall not see ye rebels in any pitcht posture, but be annoyed by them from the mountains.

I am informed that the French have 4 millions lyeing ready at Dantsigh to serve upon occasion in Poland, in case of depositions or resignations; that, by reason of ye hatred that people bear

Duc de Mortemart.

towards ye French nation, one Akakia¹ is ye person that carries on their *brigue* in that kingdome. I hear for a certainty that the Marq^s of Monterey² is named for ye present to be Governor of Flanders untill ye Queen shall think fit to make choyce of another ; that it will be off'red for ye last time to Dⁿ Juan, whom the Flemings most desire, proposing great things to himselve from it.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

July 19th, 1670.

From Vivaretz, upon the approach of ye King's troops, we hear those poor mountainers decline in their courage, & begin to crave by a letter, submitting their lives to the mercy of the King. It is thought the principall authors may be hanged & the rest sent to the galleys. The King hath resolved not to goe to Chamfort [Chambord] this autumne, but will come the sooner to Paris.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July 26th, 1670.

To continue an account of the hott rebellion in Vivarets, you may please to be informed that yesterday I had a L^{re} from a good correspondent at Lyons, of the 23th curreant, whose words are these : ' By a person this day come from Vivaretz I understood how those people, beyond all expectation, have not only beseiged Vivaretz, their capitall city, where they heard the King intended to *rendez-vous* his forces, but taken the townes & putt all to the sword.'

They seiz'd upon this person, hee says himselve, but they took from him his armes only. He says also that they have fortified themselves, that they fear no force the King can send ag^t them, & for provision they have gather'd & brought in all the corn of the countrey round about. 'Tis such impudence, this, in a time when ye King is not imbroyled wth any of his neighbors, that I confesse I know [not] what to make of it.

To found canon, they have melted all the bells in the countrey ; they coyne money & give 12 sols a day to their soldiers, & all

¹ See *London Gazette* (July 14, 1670), which mentions that 'M. Akakia was recalled from Dantzic,' so that he could not help Poland.

² Don Juan Domingo Mendez de Haro (1640–1716), second son of Don Luis de Haro. Became Count of Monterey through his marriage with Donna Inés Francisca de Zuniga.

this under one Roure,¹ that they style Lieutenant Generall for ye people of Vivaretz & for ye service of ye King. The King's guards, many of them, are past Lyons, but I believe they will attain greater succors before they attacke them, since their place designed for *rendez-vous* is taken, &c^a. These people being exasperated at the imprisonment at ye Bastile of the deputies they sent to Court to lay their grievances at his Ma^{tie's} feet, & the little hopes of mercy for their former petty revolt, are growne desperate : in number, by relation, of near 15,000, well disciplined, divided into 8 batalions, & commanded by severall French reformed officers. Many believe the King's forces will hardly be able to reduce them to obedience. I have lately gotten a new correspondent at Marseilles, much better & more punctuall than our doting Consull.

He says that S^r Tho: Allen, with 9 men of warr, a fire shipe, & a catch, is before Algiers, & by one Capt: Clermond,² formerly commander of the 'King David,' is confirmed what we heard lately, that all their ships are retired into Port, & y^t it is a matter of no great difficulty to fire & destroy them all. He left behind him about 400 English slaves & paid for his ransome 1,400^{li}.

My L^d Howard, by advice from Tangier of ye 12th past, was on his way for England, viz. Spayne & France, having effected nothing as to that embassie wth Taffelett, who hath lately declared he will have no commerce wth any Xtian Prince. M^r Warren, who put his Majesty on that embassie, it's said dyed at Fetz,³ of displeasure that things succeeded noe better.

The presse here for seamen still continues without any respect of patrones of barques, &c^a, & all for ye equippinge out those 11 ships for Tunis & Constantinople. Att Thollon, are 6 newe shipes on ye stocks, that may carry from 50 to 70 guns, & 6 others lately launched & finished; great ships, 2 whereof, of 80 guns. Order is given for ye building of 20 more wth all expedition, but when all is done what they will doe for seamen we knowe not. 3 shipes are also building hereof in carying 60 gunes each, & also 2 galleys.

¹ Formerly a sergeant in his Majesty's Guards (*London Gazette*, July 23, 1670).

² Chevalier de Clermont, *capitaine de galère*.

³ Fez.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July 30th, 1670.

I have yours of the 14th, & to your complaint about the *Ordonnance* I can add one we have newly received from Marseilles (the particulars whereof are herewith transmitted to my L^d Arlington), where the officers of the Admiralty have made it a practise, lately, to debauch our English seamen from on board the merchant ships, giving them money, & sending them immediately on board ye King's ships at Tholon. This is an intollerable abuse, since it hinders the vessells from proceeding on their voyages. My Lord Amb^r has order'd me about it, & intends to give in a brisk Mem^l in complaint therof, as well as that of the *Ordonnance* about ye W. Indyes. As to our *Aubeine* affaire, after ye goods were confiscated at the *Chambre de Tresor*, & a Mem^l given in by his Ex^{ce}, we are promised a *main levée*, but with this condition, that, because our treaties of commerce are all old, & that there is a new one *sur le tapis*, it shall be without consequence, since they know not but that concession may be abolished in the new one. I hear nothing more about ye rebellion in Vivarets but what is dismall & dreadful, that it grows yet hotter, & that they have lately taken a considerable place w^{ch} gives them passage to ravage Dauphiné also.

The Marq. of Segueles,¹ son to Mons^r Colbert, is gone lately to Rochelle, some say to instruct himselfe in ye marine affaires, he being Secretary of State & *de la marine* in *survivance*, but others say more probably that it is to divert his mind from an *amour* he had at Court, wherein he could not succeed, viz. the marrying Madame de la Motte's daughter.² Mons^r de Louvoy went on Saturday last towards Pignerol, they apprehending least these desperate rebels might make any attempt that way.

The English Princesse³ went hence on Munday. My L^d Amb^r

¹ Jean Baptiste Colbert, Marquis de Seignelay. Voltaire, *Siècle de Louis XIV*, says 'secrétaire d'Etat de la marine, qu'il rendit la plus belle de l'Europe.'

² Louise de Prie, wife of Philippe de la Mothe-Houdancourt. Her daughter, Charlotte-Eléonore-Madeleine, married Louis Charles de Lévis, Duc de Ventadour, in 1672.

³ Anne, daughter of James, Duke of York. She had been suffering from an affection of the eyes, and had been sent to France for medical advice. Since the death of her grandmother, she had been under the care of 'Madame' (*S. P., Dom.*)

met her that night at Pointoise. The K^s made her a present of 2 bracelets to the value of 10,000 crowns.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : July 30th, 1670, S.N.

My Lord Ambassador 2 days since received a letter from our Consull¹ att Marseilles, of w^{ch} his Ex^{ce} hath ordred mee to transmitt to y^r Lopp a copy, & another paper in French, copys of the petition of the Capt of ye ship concerned to the Admiralty there, attested by a publick notary. By all w^{ch} your Lopp will see in what manner & with what insolence the English are abused, & the consequence that our merchants' ships shall loose their voyages for want of men. His Ex^{ce} intends to complaine of this by Memiorall, as well as about the *Ordonnance* prohibiting any foreigners to come near 'aux environs des Isles de S. M. T. X^{ienne}' in the West Indys. I presumed to acquaint y^r Lopp, on my last, of their having confiscated ye goods of a Guernsey factor who dyed here.² I must now add that, upon a complying Mem^l therof given in to the King by my Ld Ambassador, his Ex^{ce} had yesterday this answer, that the heirs should have a *main levée*, & enjoy ye goods left by the deceased, but with this condicōn, that it should bee *sans consequence*, they alledging that our Treatys of Commerce are very old, & that there being a new one at present *sur le tapis*, they know not whether therein the same concessions may bee granted the English as in former treatys.

The French galleys are all come into Marseilles on the 18th curr^t, having been no further than Cape de Cortigo & not meeting with any thing. We cannot yet tell what to think of the hott rebellion in Languedoc, but many apprehend it may not suddainly bee appeased.³ I hear they have taken a place that opens them a passage to ravage in Dauphiné also. It is sure that the Marq^s de Louvoy is gone to Pignerol, upon an apprehension least ye rebels might attempt something that way.

¹ Mr. Codgill. For letter see *S. P., France*, July 19, 1671.

² See letter dated June 28, 1670.

³ See letter dated June 14, 1670.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Aug. 2^d, 1670.

You have heard of the insolence committed to the Turkish *Envoyé* at Valence by a clowne who pressed in to see him. The King lately sent a *lettre de cachet* to the Gov^r of the place to present the offender & ask the Turk to pronounce his sentence, but, like a gallant, hee being informed of the contents of ye letter, went to the prison & discharged him.

The Parliament of Paris is now assembled principally for three affairs, that of the Marq^s of Courcelles¹ with the C^t de Callois² upon the complaints of the clergy that the Parl^t had diminished ye pensions of *Curés* & taken away some of their *menues dismes*; ³ and upon the P^{ts} pretentions to have the precedence of ye clergy at the ceremony to be made at Notre Dame for decess'd Madam, upon w^{ch} the P^t has framed Memorialls to bee presented to the King.

The Marq. of Coeuvres⁴ is gone to compliment the young King of Spain's recovery. The Duke of Chaulnes thinks of selling his charge of Lieut-Col. of ye K^g's *gens d'armes* to M^r de Chevreuse.⁵ Last week Mons^r went to the 'Feuillans' & was present at a service for Madam, accompanied by the little Princesse his daughter.⁶ The Count de Lazun [Lauzun] has bought ye gouvernement of Metz for 80,000 crowns of ye Marshal de la Ferté.⁷ Some say here that Mons^r de Gourville has received at Madrid, for ye P^{ce} of Condé, 60,000 pistolls out of the new Indy money. The 'menu peuple de Metz'⁸ have been inclining to a rebellion upon a new tax on every *Cabaret pour le Bouchon*; 5 of ye principall authors were hang'd, & the rest whip'd by ye hangman. Since I wrote thus far I must correct what I sayd about ye Mareshall la Ferté. He has received ye 80,000 crowns of ye King for the demission of his

¹ Charles de Champlais, Marquis de Courcelles.

² Louis d'Oger, Marquis de Cavoie.

³ A tax which consisted of a tenth part of the produce of the land to be given to the Church or any ecclesiastical establishment.

⁴ Annibal d'Estrées, son of François Annibal, Duc d'Estrées.

⁵ Charles Honoré d'Albert, Duc de Chevreuse, de Luynes, et de Chaulnes.

⁶ Marie Louise, Mademoiselle d'Orléans (1662-1689).

⁷ Henri Senneterre, Marquis de la Ferté.

⁸ The poorest part of the population.

charge, & it's sayd the K^s is inclined to dispose of it to the Duke of Luxembourg¹ or Mareschal de Crequy, the C^t de Lauzun being treating about ye government of Guienne. The King has given to the Duke of Chaulnes ye government of Bretagne *en chef*. One of the principall towns in Roussillon has *esgorgé* the French garrison, & the magistrates have sent to the rebells in Vivarets that if they would persevere in their designs, & give them protection, they would side with them & maintaine that place for them. I think I was mistaken in my last, when I sayd that Mons^r de Louvoy was gone that way, being since informed that he parts not till this day. The people discourse much that the Hollanders foment this rebellion, & that a Courier was stopt at Moulin from ye P^{cc} of Orange going to them to assure them of his H^s protection. It's said ye King has sent order to the nobility of Languedoc to be in armes, soe hott is this sedition.

I am informed that the K^s intends in a day, 2 or 3, to goe to Fontainbleau, there to divert himselfe for about 3 weeks, & thence for Chambort. Ye King's going to the first place is certainly of design to breake up ye campe and send them against ye rebels, it being then the time appointed for the releiving ye camp, w^{ch} shall not be done by reason of the King's absence.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: $\frac{\text{July ye 27th [? 29]} }{\text{August the 8th}}$, 1670.

The late rebellion in Vivarets having made a great noyse by reason of their great numbers, &c., I presume with all humility to acquaint y^r Lopp with the last advices thence, w^{ch} have not a little pleased the King & Court.

Letters from Montelimer of July 28 advise that on the 18th Mons^r de Vardes² gott to the Camp, & went the Friday after, at the head of the vanguard of ye army, with Mess^{rs} de Castre,³ du Roure,⁴ le Prince d'Harcourt,⁵ M^r le Bret,⁶ & many other persons of quality. On the first day of their march they mett with near 3 thousand of

¹ François Henri de Montmorenci, Duc de Luxembourg.

² François René du Bec-Crespin, Marquis de Vardes.

³ René Gaspard de la Croix, Marquis de Castries, lieutenant-general.

⁴ Louis Pierre Scipion de Grimoard de Beauvais et de Montlaur.

⁵ François, Princee d'Harcourt, third son of Charles II., Duc d'Elbœuf.

⁶ Pierre Cardin le Bret, Sieur de Flacourt.

ye rebells, who imediately upon ye approach of ye King's forces threw away their armes & fled, soe that there were taken but 60 prisoners & 50 slayne; since when the army has marched further into the countrey without meeting anything but the *Suisse* that were shutt up in Aubenas for above a month. The rebells saved themselves in the mountains; Aubenas was pillaged, & a place called La Chapelle burnt to the ground, where de Roure, ye head of y^m [them], was borne & dwelt.

The inhabitants of Poivas [Privas], through an extraordinary zeale for the King's service, went to attack a body of ye Vivarois w^{ch} were to passe near their towne to joyne with de Roure, but they were routed & the towne taken & pillaged. Nostradamus has spoken of this revolt in his '4^{re} Centurie' in these words: 'Le Camp plus grand de Roure mis en fuitte, guère plus outre ne sera pas chassé, ost recampé, et region reduitte, puis hors de Gaule du tout sera chassé.'

The King has received certain news by an expresse from Mr de Castres that de Roure's Camp has ben put to the flight, 300 slayne, & 200 prisoners, ye head himselfe having saved himself in the mountains.

My letters from Marseilles say Sr Tho: Allin has been lately capitulating with the French Admirall before Tunis upon his hindring our ships from entring into that port, & that the result was promises on both sides to molest neither in their entrances into Tunis or Argiers.

I am informed that the Marq^s of Louvoy's journey towards Pignerol was not towards ye fortifying that place, as was pretended, but to confer with the Duke of Savoy about somewhat that may in time concerne Geneva, with whom ye Duke has lately some growing differences.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Aug. 13th, 1670, S.N.

To-morrow ye ceremony is to be performed for 'feu de Beau-fort.'¹

Yesterday was a solemne procession for ye purifying ye Church of N^{re} Dame & prayer that ye sin might not be imputed,

¹ The anniversary of his death (died August 1669).

&c ; & ye day before ye Archbp of Paris ordred a fast in order thereunto.

To tell you ye towne talke is somewhat nonsensicall in one particular (altho' nothing bee more discoursed of), viz^t, that Monsieur is to marry Mad^{le} d'Orleans,¹ they being so near in blood, & there being other things that make it improbable.

The people of Vivarets are routed ye field, tho' I hear that ye King's troops pursuing them, even on the mountains, had a recoyle that spoyled abundance of ye men, at w^{ch} I hear also ye K^s is somewhat angry.

Yesterday a gent: of quality's son, & heir to a great estate, was taken out of ye Chartreux, where he had entred himself but lately, & if, after 8 months being out, his inclinations are ye same to reenter, he shall doe what he pleases therein: all by ye King's order at ye Parents' request.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Aug. 23, 1670.

Here is nothing more possesseth the people than a reall belief that the League is broken, grounded only upon the extraordinary entertaynement the Duke of Buckingham hath had here, & a resolucon lately taken to send on Wednesday next about 15 thous^d men from the Camp to *rendevous* at Peronne, commanded by Marshall Crequy. The souldiery is willing to flatter itselfe that there may be warres, but the designe, I believe, is no other than to dispose those troops into ye severall garrisons, for ye double inforcing them during the winter, especially those where the citodells are not quite finished. But then, some object, why so soone in the year? & why so many? there being already in the frontier garrisons about 17 thousand men, unles the King will have on ye place a sufficeint body of troops to take possession of what he pretends to *sur les dependances*, w^{ch} differences cannot well be decided within ye year limited by the King, & he is left to use means in such case after it is expired.

Capt. Pierce, commander of ye 'Saphire,' scandalously lost in the

¹ His cousin, Anne Marie Louise d'Orléans, daughter of Gaston d'Orléans. The marriage did not take place, as Monsieur married Charlotte Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Lewis, Elector Palatine.

Mediterranean, will be here in a day or two.¹ Mons^r de Louvoy is come back from Pignerol, & gives occasion to many to talke of Fouquet's enlargement.² He will not enjoy ye Post Office long, the King having resolved to take it into his owne hands. I hear that Mons^r Colbert & he cannot set their horses together, the former having lately gotten the favor of his lady's³ riding in ye coach with the Queen. Le Tellier's lady⁴ being improper for such things, Louvoy pretended to it for his wife, but was refused. The Landgraf of Hesse⁵ is come hither, much satisfied with his enter-taynem^t in England. He will not appear at Court yet, but make ye *tour de la France* first, fearing an affront for his having visited Sr W. Temple⁶ at ye Hague & not M^r Pomponne,⁷ w^{ch} the latter resented.

This evening the Duke is to be regaled at Versailles after ye *media nox*. It is sayd he may be going hence in 5 or 6 days.

On Thursday was the great ceremony of Madam's enterment performed at S^t Denis, w^{ch} I leave to M^r Vernon's relation⁸ as to particulars, because I was then about busines at S^t Germain's, where all the courtiers talke of league breakings, warrs with Holland, millions to be sent for England, 40 men of war thence to assist France, &c^a; but these things I look on as 'tant au vent.'

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Aug. 27, 1670.

On this very day (as I told you in my last) the whole camp breaks up, & still maintains the people's hopes alive, that their marching into Flanders must bee for some warlike intençõn.

All I can hear to be the probable reason for soe suddain a removall is want of forrage, & for their marching into Flanders to prevent the violence & losse the countrey suffer'd last year among

¹ According to the *London Gazette*, dated September 28, 1670, Capt. Pierce and his lieutenant were executed, sentence having been passed by court martial.

² Fouquet remained a prisoner at Pignerol until his death in 1680.

³ Marie Charon, daughter of Jacques Charon, Seigneur de Menars.

⁴ Elisabeth Turpin.

⁵ Charles, son of William VI. and Hedwig Sophia, daughter of George William Elector of Brandenburg.

⁶ English Ambassador at the Hague.

⁷ French Ambassador at the Hague.

⁸ See *S. P., France*. Letter dated August 23, 1670.

their *vendanges* when the troops were scatter'd, as well as ye giving jealousy to Holland & putting them to great winter charges in their frontiers. This is all the naked account I can hitherto give you of the march of soe great a body of men.

On Sunday last there was a gallant review of them, ambuscados, forts taken, the artillery attacked, &c. The advantage proposed from this harmlesse play is ye teaching the men practise of keeping in order, &c. You will find, I believe, that ye French will have pretext enough given them of doing something in Flanders early in the Spring, it being not very likely that those differences will be adjusted within ye time limited. Little Madam, ye King's daughter, has been ill of an *imposthume* in her head, but I hear she is now better, as well as ye Dauphin, who hath ben indisposed by some fitts of a feaver these 6 days past.

That Heimskirke,¹ [by] whom S^r John Trevor² sent his Mat^{ie}'s orders to my L^d Amb^r to complaine of & endeavor to stop his voyage to the W. Indys, went away above 2 months since with 3 good ships, sett out by some particular persons, under designe of finding a Northerne passage to the Indys. Herewith I transmitt to you a copy of the last Mem^o my L^d Amb^r gave in, to w^{ch} his Ex^{ce} had answer that the King had written to M^r Colbert in England to give his Ma^{ty} all satisfaction he could desire.

My Lord Arlington, at my coming away, was pleased to promise me 20ⁿ a year towards my subsistance here, w^{ch} I received for the last year. I beseech you, S^r, to move his Jpp in it & be pleased to trouble y^rselfe with the transmitting ye quota for this year also to mee. I beg y^r pardon for this trouble & assure you that, tho' I am very thrifty, there are many necessary expences that lick up all I am allowed.

Here is a complaint come from Diep [Dieppe] of a violence done to ye M^r of a sloop belonging to our King. I send you ye extract of it in French as it is given to ye Ministers here. The Duke of Bucks has been here these 3 days at Paris.³ I hear he has

¹ Sieur Hemskirke, Envoy Extraordinary from the United Provinces to the Emperor Leopold.

² English Envoy in Paris. Appointed Secretary of State in 1669.

³ Buckingham's mission was concerned with an arrangement with Louis on behalf of the Protestants, and with measures to obtain some redress for the ill-usage which the English merchants suffered in the sale of woollen cloths. Before he left it was the firm belief in France that the league was broken. According to

been presented with 4 of ye King's best horses, & a sword, besett with diamonds, is preparing for him, valued at 20 thous^l crowns.

The Holland Ambassador¹ is expected here every moment. He comes in a scurvy jealous conjuncture.

The people hate ye Dutch more than ever did ye Spaniard.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Sept. 4th, 1670, S.N.

I should have told you in my last of ye surprise in Lorraine, but I learnt it after my letters were gone onely. The Chev^r de Fourille, at the head of 7,000 men, took Nancy, ye Duke himsel^e narrowly escaping (his Duchesse,² with 2 other princesses, put themselves into a Nunnery) towards Humbourg; in his way he left orders at Chastel Surmoisy, a strong place. Upon this advise the Marshall Crequy went post for Lorraine, leaving M^r de Vaubrun³ to command the moyety of ye Army that marched along ye River Esné.⁴ It's sayd they will besiege Espinan⁵ & all the strong places in Lorraine. You are not ignorant, I presume, of the reasons of this suddain action, though the outward ones were the taking downe limits, posts, impositions, &c. The main one is that Duke's endeavors for these 12 months past to embarke himsel^e on the league,⁶ with affronting propositions against France in such case.

We have no news since from those parts, tho' a courier came last night to S^t Germain's. It's believed generally all Lorraine is taken, tho' others are of opinion that some holds may stand it out a while; if soe, & that the Duke have witt as he has much money, he may make some sport; the winter drawing on, a few men may make considerable defence.

The Duke of Buckingham is taking his leave, & M^r Stanley⁷ has his of Monsieur & a present of a ring with 300*l*.

Mignet, Louis agreed to insist upon Charles giving the command of the English auxiliary forces to Buckingham (Mignet, vol. iii. pp. 221-225).

¹ Pierre van Grotius.

² Eléonore Marie, wife of Charles IV., Duc de Lorraine.

³ Nicolas de Bautru-Nogent, Marquis de Vaubrun, appointed Marshal in 1703.

⁴ Aisne.

⁵ Espinal.

⁶ The Triple Alliance.

⁷ Peter Stanley, brother to the Earl of Derby.

*To Lord Arlington.*Paris : 7ber 6th, 1670.

My Lord Ambassador is gone this morning to S^t Germain's to deliver in a Mem^l upon our London Merchants' complaint, w^{ch} your Lopp lately transmitted to his Ex^{ty}.

At this moment I have certain advice of the Duke of Lorraine's being at Espinal, a strong place in that Dutchy, but cannot averre what is reported, that he has sent L^{res} of submission to the French King.

It is most true that the Prince of Tarante¹ has turn'd Roman Cath^{que} & sent a letter to the States of Holland, whereby he renounces all the charges & commands he had under them.

This is a considerable chocque to the poor Huguenots, whose interest declines dayley by the disertation² of such great persons that maintain'd it at Court; the only person left is M^r de Ruigny.³

There is no likelihood that France will recede from the reference for the determinacōn of ye differences about dependances in any circumstance, but insist still that Eng^d & Sweden have the arbitracōn, without being joyn'd with the Hollanders, who, though they seem outwardly to decline it, presse it home at Madrid, alledging that as they have $\frac{1}{3}$ in the guaranty, nothing relating to the Peace of Aix de la Chappelle ought to be transacted separate from them, soe that, before the 2 Crowns can agree about the arbitrators, ye time limited will bee elapsed, & it may be a pretext given to France to use force of armes.

The Duke of Bucks is yet at S^t Germain's taking leave, & may be on his returne in a few days.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Sep. 6, '70.

This morning news is come by a Courier that ye Duke of Lorraine is at Espinal, & some say that he hath written a submissive letter to the French King, wherein he talks of surrender, &c., w^{ch} displeaseth much the souldiery, who proposed great things to themselves from that invasion.

¹ Henri Charles de la Trémouille.² *I.e.* desertion.³ Henri Massué, Marquis de Ruigny (1610-1689).

The Prince of Tarrante, you know, S^r, has been lately in Holland. At the very nick of ye surprise in Lorraine he sent a L^{re} to the States, wherein he renounced all the commands he had under them, being turn'd Papist & expecting greater preferment here in France. The army that is marching towards Verdun went from Senlis to Soissons, from Brayne along the river Voile¹ to Tismes,² & encamped near Reims on Thursday night last, whence they march towards Menhou, & thence whither ye Marq' of Louvoy shall conduct them. The Chev^r de Fourille sent a summons to the Governor of Chastel Surmoisy to know for whome he maintayned the place, whether for the King or Duke of Lorraine.³ He ans^d for neither, but for his soverayne, P^{ce} Charles of Lorraine,⁴ whereupon they are puzzled a little how to proceed. I hear that ye French troops moulder away & that the Duke of Lorraine has 6,000 men. He sent a strange letter to the King on Sunday last by an officer of his owne. I am told it was much after this style: 'Sire, I hear you are angry with mee; I don't know why. I have no news to send you, but you may be better informed of all from the Company you have sent into my countrey,' &c. I think the King refused to read it. The Chev^r d'Harcourt is come hither, quitting the Duke's service, because he has great benefices in France.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Sep. 13, 1670.

The Duke of Buck took his leave on Tuesday, & that night, as he sup'd with ye C. Lauzun, ye King & some ladies in masks entred, one of whom disarmed his grace, whilst the other invested him with the rich sword & belt soe long talk't of. On Thursday he was treated magnificently by ye Mⁱ Belfonds at ye Louvre, & last night by my L^d Amb^r in an ext^{ry} manner.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Sep. 17, 1670, S.N.

I presume this may find you return'd to London after a satisfactory *divertisement* in the countrey, & that the Duke of Buckingham may be with you before this, his Grace setting out hence

¹ Vesle.

² Fismes.

³ Charles IV. de Lorraine.

⁴ Nephew of Charles IV. and son of Nicolas de Lorraine.

yesterday morning early towards Calais in company with M^r Stanley, M^r James Porter, & C. Grammont,¹ besides the beautifull young lady Mad^{me} Keroel,² *quondam* maid-of-honor to Madam, who I hear is designed to have the same *rang* with her Ma^{ty} of England. Here-with I send you an impertinent discourse presented to Court about salutes, to the end you may see what they heartily aim att. The two packetts to S^r M. Ognate³ are particularly recomend'd to y^r protection. I am told that the King has sent to the *Imperatrice Dowager*⁴ a remission of all the affaire of Lorraine, referring wholly to her ye determination of that matter. Many look on this as an amusement onely for the Emperor, whilst his troopes are besieging Espinal, & it's said P^{ce} Charles is join'd with his Uncle in order to some defence. The Dutch Amb^r de Groot⁵ will hardly be able to make his entry these 2 months yet; his gout & the King's going for Chambort will keep him long incognito.

The world is of opinion here that the league is broken, that one is made ag^t the Hollanders, &c., in the Indies, but you know how true on that side better than wee.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: 7b 24, 1670.

All buildings are surceased—I mean ‘maisons royales’—neither are the musick, *escuries*, &c., paid regularly, as formerly, the whole intent being on swelling up the *Tresor Royal* against Spring or a wet day. I hear that ye King asked M^r Colbert for an account of his dayly charges in generall, who desired 6 weeks' time for it, when the K^s replied that Fouquet could have done it in as many days.

The Venetian Ambassador, now at Thurin, refusing to render up one of his pages that drew his sword in the Duke's palace, the Duke sent his guards to the Amb^r's house to search it, of w^{ch} the Senate being advised have called home their Amb^r, complaining that the *droit de gens* had been violated in his person.

¹ Philibert, chevalier, afterwards Comte de Grammont.

² Louise Renée de Penancoët de Kéroualle (1649–1734), later Duchess of Portsmouth.

³ Mark Ognate, Envoy Extraordinary from Spain.

⁴ Eleanora, daughter of Charles, second Duke of Mantua.

⁵ Pierre Van Grotius.

Papers have been found at Nancy w^{ch} evidence that the Dukes of Lorraine have usurped on the Territories of ye B^{ps} of Metz, Toul, & Verdun (that have been of ye House of Lorraine), & ever since continued to keep possession, w^{ch} the King has resolved to reforme & reduce *in statu quo*. The King's troops there consist of 15,000 men, commanded by Marshall Crequi, who has not yet laid formal seige to Chastel, having only 4 little field pieces of 15th ball. That place is well wall'd & in posture of defence.

The King told ye P^{ce} of Condé a few days since that, if his Ma^{ty} went to Lorraine, the P^{ce} must accompa^y him thither.

The voyage to Chambort is uncertain.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Octob 1, 1670, S.N.

Since his Ex^c wrote the inclosed, my L^d Amb^r commands me to informe your Lopp that upon letters from Holland, France being advised that the Dutch are ordering the raising of twenty five thousand men, & their resolution to have a great army at Spring, the King of France yesterday gave order for raising forthwith fiftene thousand men, being resolved to push the affaire of Lorraine to the utmost, which the Dutch have reason to apprehend & provide against.

Here has been lately a prohibition posted up in onely some few particular places forbidding ye merchants to buy or vend *English* silke stockins. I know not whether the word *English* be mentioned, but am sure the intent is only against them. I have endeavour'd but cannot gett the print yet. I hope to have it to transmit to y^r Lopp by this post.

The abuses of that kind are great & generall in all the English trade with this kingdome, & nothing but a reciprocall proceeding will obtaine redresse, they being solely bent upon the advancing the manufactures of France to the destruction of all foreigne trade.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Oct. 1, 1670.

I have been to inquire for ye print ag^t ye silke stockins, but can learne only that there was some kind of a prohibition posted up in the 'Hall des Marchands' & in 2 or 3 particular places, but cannot yet get the print itselfe. It may be I shall have it to send you by

this Ord^{ry}. The great minister refused to give my L^d Amb^r an answer in writing to the Mem^l I sent you a copy of about our woollen manufacture. Indeed the whole designe is to ruine all our trade to France & promote their wine manufactures.

Espinal, I presume you have heard, is taken; 7 French that were found in armes hang'd, ye garrison made prisoner of warre, & 800 Lorrainers of ye militia condemned to the galleys for disobeying the declaration ye French made at first, summoning all to fidelity to France, &c.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Octob 4, 1670.

What yours of the 19th touch'd upon is very true, for already the Court of France proposeth great things from S^r W. Temple's going into England.¹ The Spannish Resident, M^r Iturietti, told me yesterday that by the last courier from Madrid he was advised that the Queen Regent & Junta had at length admitted of ye nomination France had long since made of Eng^d & Sweden to decide the different pretentions of ye 2 Crowns about dependances. But they have made a generall restriction that the arbiters shall liquidate all differences of what kind soever, tho' the reference made by France mentioned only those about ye 3 places of Conde, fort Lynk, & Newport, soe that this busines is farther from any appearance of accomodation than ever. What can then be expected from weak obstinacy? The King of France raiseth effectually, as well as the Hollanders, in promise.

It's strange that in Flanders the troops should be reform'd in this conjuncture. I hear that Chastel,² upon the first approach of ye French troops, surrendred.

I suppose you have already the news out of ye Mediteranean of S^r Tho. Allen's succeſse ag^t the pirates under the command of Capt. Beach in the 'Hampshire,' who with 4 of our fregatts has burnt ye 6 Algerines that Alington & Young were engaged ag^t; saved 250 Xtians, whereof 62 were English. The Turks gott on shoare on planks.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Oct. 11, 1670.

This vacation time gives me little to write to you of news, therefore will entertaine you with a great grievance to our English

¹ He left the Hague in Sept. 1670.

² Chastel Surmoisy.

trade by the transportation of extraordinary quantities of wooll to the prejudice of our manufactures.

In some shops this week I saw above 20 or 30 great packs. I am informed they have it from the walloons at Canterbury, who comb many hundred weight in a week, & it were, I believe, necessary that a watchfull eye be had over them, how they dispose of it. The way the French have to transport it is their running aground with their little vessels in the night time, when the countrey people stuff them with wooll, & they get off again by the tyde before morning & soe escape being taken notice of.

Now, Sr, for encouragem^t of its importation the customs on it are very small, as 30 sous per cent, when as those on coales are at 24 *livres*, because they desire not to have them brought hither. And the persons that vend the wooll in chief being gentlemen of ye countrey for the improving their estates, little or no notice is taken of soe great an abuse on the place.

There must be some remedy applyed to this growing mischief, or we must expect that the neck of our manufacture commerce will be broken, whatever freedom may be granted us by treaties; for already the persons concerned in the manufactures here grumble, asking why ye Guernsey men import woollen stockings, since they can make as good themselves, having the same materialls from England; the same they say of clothe, &c.

If the farmers of our customs would send a person to Bologne they might easily discover the persons that are concerned, & they punished severely for a terror to the rest.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Oct. 15, 1670.

Herewith I presume to transmit to your Lopp two letters, sent me from Marseilles & Rouen. By one y^r Lopp will see some redresse upon the complaints of their debauching away our English seamen, & by the other what extraordinary high impositions they continue on English goods imported. Because they would incourage the felonious exportation of wooll out of Eng^d, the customes on it are but 30 sous per cent, & at present, my Lord, the shops are stuff'd with it all over this citty, to the great prejudice of our trade. The walloons at Canterbury are suspected to be the managers of the stealth. This abuse cannot be remedy'd by any Treaty, but a severe punishm^t on the offenders, of whom I hope to be able to

informe y^r Lopp more particularly. The C^t Grammont arrived here last night & is gone to the King at Chambord, who is expected to be at Versailles on Sunday next. I am told by a person come in [a] few days from Tholon that the French build ships with extraordinary vigour, that no sooner 5 ships are bottom'd only (if I may use the expression) but they are launched, & 5 more begun upon the stocks.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Oct 15, 1670.

The late English resolution of setting a good fleet to sea at spring has quite alter'd the method of people's discourse here, though most hint that France will fall out with some body, & particularly the Hollander is the subject of their anger.

From Tholon I am informed by a person come lately thence that extraordinary diligence is there used for making a good marine equipage. 5 frigatts are lately launched, though but halfe built, to make roome for others on the stocks; that is, as soon as ye bottoms are made only, they are put on ye water & finished there, whilst they begin others in their places. My Marseilles' correspondent tells me that upon my L^d Amb^r's complaint at Court, the seamen they debauched from on board our merchants' ships were released, & from Rouen they complain of ye extravagant great dutys laid on our English importations, as 125 *livres* on 100 barrils of sea coales, w^{ch} cost but 5^{li} at Newcastle, & on all other goods in proportion.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Oct. 18, 1670.

I have sent for some late *Arrests*, but believe the post cannot stay for them. I observe in y^r late London 'Gazette' that there was come in at Pendennis two little French men of warre, of 3 that went out to find a northerne passage. I believe that Heimskirke commanded them, because he went out some months since upon that designe, though in England it was imagined he went to take possession of an Island he discovered to P^{ce} Robert¹ in the W. Indies. If he shall undertake any such thing you shall have timely notice; we know him to be a rogue & ought to be watch'd.

I have seen the Mem^l the Dutch Ambassador gave in to Mons^r

¹ Prince Rupert, son of Frederick V. and Elizabeth of England (daughter of James I.)

Lyonne to be given to ye King. It first insisted much what commerce was—the life & nerves of a nation, & ye consequence of interruption of it, a misunderstanding: then represented ye grievous high Impositions, & threatened the like if not redressed. He will make his entry at ye King's returne from Chambort.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: 8ber 25, 1670.

Herewith I transmit to you a copy of the Dutch Ambassad^{rs} Mem^l he gave in some days since, to w^{ch} he expects a categoricall answer, but I believe it may not be to his satisfaction, for the maine end for the heightning the Impositions on forreigne Importations being to discourage them, in order to the vent of the French manufactures, the same policy still reigning, they will neither gratify the Dutch, nor much care what dutys they may raise in Holland on the French goods, especially since the French are at present not very complaisant towards the Dutch, & since they have not given the English other than faire words upon positive complaints.

The King will be (here, I mean) at St Germain's this day to see the Dolphin, upon whose indisposition the King broke up all his *divertisements* in the very midst to come away. I think I told you some thing of Jo. Haines; now I can add that he has behaved himselfe there to every body's wonder, & diverted the King by severall English dances, to his great satisfaction & that of all the Court. I believe he will have a present made him. If you should think it convenient, it would doe him a great kindnesse in England to mention him in the 'Gazette' among the King's *divertisements* at Chambort, where, whilst the Balets were preparing, he hunted the wild bore & pheasants.

By the enclosed¹ you see the severall entries & manner of the Balet; between every one Haines had order to dance by himselfe, & notwithstanding the confronting of the best dancers, carried it off to admiration, & was ordred to dance some things twice over.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Oct. 29, 1670, S.N.

To what I mentioned in my last about the navall preparations of France, I may adde that the French King hath sent orders for

¹ The enclosure is missing.

ye drawing ten men out of each company of foot in Flanders to bee sent to Thoulon & other sea ports, to bee in a readinesse to bee imbarked on his men of war, & the companies are to bee recruited to their full number, besides ye raising of twenty thousand men, for which the drums beate.

And on the other side the troops in Lorraine molder away, above foure thousand having lately deserted the service, there pay being but a penny a day onely & used with great severity.¹

The Countesse of Monterei² is arrived here with a great traine of ladies, & this day is to see the Queen, who gives her the honour of setting in her presence. The King will come to Paris in a few weeks, in order to which many hands are at worke in the Louvre.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Novemb^r $\frac{5}{16}$, 1670.

The most Xtian King, hearing the particular resolutions of his Ma^{ty} of England & the States Generall for the setting out respectively 50 & 70 sayle of fighting ships, hath given order for the equipping 40 men of warr for the Ocean, & 30 for the Mediterranean, eight whereof are on the stocks at Tholon & 4 at Marseilles, & will be ready against Spring, of between 50 & 70 gunns. And my correspondent there tells mee that by their late presse they have secured a great number of men for the ships that lye there.

Here were many great persons that desired the gouvernement of Guienne,³ but the King hath bestowed that charge on the Duc d'Albret, who least expected it & is a person that, besides some near relation, is very well qualified for it. To morrow the Heer Grotius makes his publick entry, to which hee invited the Savoy & Venetian Ambassadors; but apprehending that the former will pretend to have his coach goe before that of the Dutch Amb^r, he hath since desired them not to send their coaches. However I believe they will not desist from it, & there may happen some contention & disorder.

If his Ma^{ty} hath resolved (as our last English letters affirme) that his H^{ssc} the Prince of Orange shall have the same *rang* in that

¹ In cipher and deciphered.

² See p. 98, n. 2.

³ See letter dated Aug. 2, 1670.

court as the Prince of Condé hath in this, I presume to remind your Lopp that, as the Prince of Condé upon the King of England's consent that his Ambassador should visit him (without any consequence of yielding the precedency in the least, which his Ma^{ty} pretended that his Ambassadors should have before the Princes of the blood) would not accept of & returne the visitt upon equall termes, soe his H^s the Prince of Orange may please to insist on the same punctilio with the French Ambassador to meet him at the Staires' head, & returning the visit, the Amb^r to meet his H^{ssc} at the coach. For if such visitt should passe on equal termes, as the Prince of Orange is declared of the same *rang* with the Prince of Condé, it would not conforme with the manner of the Prince of Condé's proceedings towards my Lord Amb^r Montagu, who did not visitt him for that reason.

The next day after his entry the Dutch Amb^r is to have his publick Audience at S^t Germain's & because the King would not consent that Mons^r Colbert should conferre with him about his complaints of the Impositions, referring the Amb^r to his personall discourse with his Ma^{ty} only to gaine time, he is resolved after he hath made his compliments to demand a cathegoricall answer.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Novemb^r ⁵/₁₅, 1670.

Wee are most glad to hear that the great organ our Parliament is tuned to soe perfect a harmony with his Ma^{tie's} will & occasions.¹ Certainly it gives us a great reputation abroad & because the English & Dutch have already declared the number of ships of warre they resolve to have at sea next summer, the Most Xtian King hath given order for the equipping of fourty sayle for the Ocean, & 30 for the Mediteranean, of w^{ch} number 8 are on the stocks at Tholon & 4 at Marseilles, w^{ch} you will see by the enclosed from my correspondent there.

A letter is come to M^r Colbert from Brest that they had seen the East Indy ship they long expected, called the 'S^t Marie,' wherein is the S^r de Mardevergnier, & some say he will be clapt in prison for having inbezled the money & amunition at Madagascar.²

The S^r de la Son de *Lyonne*,³ who hath the *Bastion de la France*

¹ See Montagu-Arlington Papers (*Hist. MSS. Com.*), p. 488. ² See p. 159.

³ Probably Sieur Picquet, a merchant from Lyons, who, according to a letter from Colbert to Mazarin, held 'Le Bastion de France' in Oct. 1672.

in Affrica, hath sent hither the Treaty which he hath made with his neighbours there, by w^{ch} he establishes a Trade of Corne, leather, & whalebone, to the end that ye Levant Company might ratify it.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Novemb 8, 1670.

On Wednesday last the Marq^s de Louvoy went hence towards Flanders to visitt the fortifications, take a view of ye garrison troops, draw out ye men I lately mentioned, & particular orders to incourage & favorise as much as [he] may the Trade of Lisle & Tournay, & to consult the best means of drawing all the Commerce of ye neighbouring Spannish townes to those 2 places, with Mons^r de Beliazari,¹ *Intend^t de manufactures*—for ye promoting of w^{ch} designe a *fond* is to be established & all workemen entertained, w^{ch} they promise themselves will come from many parts. Yesterday the *Provost des Marchands de Lyonne* went hence with priviledges for ye establishing a manufacture of linnen cloth at Tarare. And besides ye Accademy of Painters established at ye Goblins, & another into w^{ch} Mr le Buire² inspects, another to be sett up ‘de tous les arts sur les quelles on peut inspecter les plus habiles en chaque mestier,’ & all, in fine, to perfectionate ye manufactures; & a good dye being necessary for ye clothe, aprentiss are putt in ye Goblins to learne that art, & afterwards to be dispersed over ye Kingdome.

Morosino is questioned at Venice for ye surrender of Candy.³

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Novemb 19, 1670.

On Saturday next I will give the particulars of the Dutch Amb^r^s Entry & Audience. The former was on Sunday; his traine in livery was small, four footmen & two pages. Hee is a person lookt upon by every body as an ingenious man & one that will not compliment. He hath declared to the Ministers, when the question was asked what meant the levyes in Holl^d at land & sea, &c., that

¹ François Bellinzani.

² Charles Le Brun.

³ See *London Gazette*, dated Venice, November 8, 1670.

they were to defend themselves against the insults of ye French, by their vast impositions, as well as posture of doing them further mischiefs.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Nov. 29^e, 1670.

The Heer von Groot hath, at a visit made to Mons^r de Lyonne, be[e]n received *fort froidement*, for he demanding when he should have answer to his Memⁿ, soe long since given in, he was assured by M^r de Lyonne that hee ought to expect none. Since the last letters out of Holland had brought the States' resolution of heightning the Impositions on French goods & forbidding the importation of Brandewyn, the French merchants doe as generally complain as the forreigners. But there is no redresse in view either to the English or Dutch. The King comes this day to Paris & intends to squeeze the Parliament into some *Arrests* that will bring him in millions. You hear, I suppose, how he hath sent an advertisement to ye Elect' of Treves¹ of his designe to lodge some troops in his countrey, which hath much alarm'd that Prince, the French King pretending to be protector of his countrey, being in possession of that of Lorraine, as ye Duke of that name was.

There are about 25,000 men compleat quartered in Lorraine in good order, & preparing themselves for mouth & gun, as if some considerable attempt were in prospect.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Decemb^r 6, 1670.

Nothing of extraordinary hath happ'ned this week worthy y^r Lopp's communication, unlesse that about three days since a courier arrived here from the Sieur de Gremontville, the French Agent at Vienna, with complaints of his being affronted to the utmost by the Prince of Lobkowits² & the Emperor's refusall to give him audience. Thereupon the Courier was sent back the same day with instructions for his behaviour. Some believe they tend to his revocation & leaving the further resentment till the Impⁿ *Envoyé* shall come hither. Others are of opinion that the provocations were great on designe to cause the affront & give a

¹ Carl Gaspar von der Leyen.

² Wenceslaus Eusebius, Prince of Lobkowitz. He succeeded Aversberg as Prime Minister of Austria in 1670, and was overthrown by the Jesuits in 1676.

pretext of complaining. The Dutch Amb^r cannot obtaine any answer to his complaints, & at present the Dutch & French are upon very ill termes, Mons^r de Lyonne telling the Amb^{rs} that, since his master had begun the laying new Impositions on the French, the King would not be complaisant towards them, but to those already made he would heighten the dutys.

I must beg y^r excuse for not writing by the last, being upon the same employment after one Doughty,¹ servant to D. Bucks, who came lately and hath seen the Ministers.²

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : December 16th, '70.

It is agreed upon that Mons^r Peguelin shall be married to Mad^{lle} de Montpensier³ who is to be made Duc & Peer de France, and that the C^t de Louvigny⁴ is also to wed M^{lle} La Valière. He is son to M^{lle} Grammont. The former surpriseth every body after ye many discourses of Monsieur. Don't you hear, S^r, of a meeting of some of ye German Princes where Fustemburg is to be present & maintain ye French interest?

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Decemb^r 20, '70.

I told you in my last of the King's having consented to the marriage of Mad^{lle} to the C^t de Lauzun, but now I must forbid the banes, because Monsieur, the Queen, & P^{ccs} of the blood, being much troubled at the inequality, have since soe possessed the King with upbraidings of his having made the match, with such exasperating termes, as discomposed his Ma^{ty}, & on Thursday night he sent for her & told her that he was very sorry he had seemed to connive at the choyce she had made, since it had abused the world with a beliefe that because of his kindnes for ye Count he had framed ye alliance & therfore, to shew the contrary, he was obliged to declare she should not marry him. You may imagine the mortification after the publick compliments made them there-

¹ For a full account see Montagu-Arlington Papers (*Hist. MSS. Comm.*), p. 490

² In cipher and deciphered.

³ Anne Marie Louise d'Orléans.

⁴ Antoine Charles, Comte de Louvigny, afterwards Duc de Grammont.

upon &c^a to have a cloud overcast the satisfaction they proposed to themselves.¹

The Imp^{ll} *Envoyé*, the C^t de Winderschgratz,² is here; his busines chiefly about Lorraine, but it is said he is to propose a match between Monsieur & the Emp^s sister; ³ besides w^{ch} it is believed he hath order to discourse about a busines in Alsace.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Decemb 20, 1670.

There having some considerable occurrences hap'ned this week, I will presume to give your Lopp the severall particulars.

It is the generall opinion that France being most intent upon the improving its Commerce it hath no further designe than in order thereunto, by rumours & preparaçons to putt its neighbours, the Dutch, into perpetuall alarmes, & to the vast expences that must attend them. And to foment their apprehensions will allways maintaine troops in garrison on the frontiers, as well as endeavour to be great in marine force. The Dutch being their eysore in point of trade, the politicians have brought the King to two resolutions viz^t:

1. That far from disburth'ning the merchandise imported of the great dutys laid upon them, the Dutch shall transport nothing out of France without paying extraordinary new dutys to be laid upon the French merchandise. To the end therefore that the marchants of this Kingdome may be encouraged to make the Trade the Hollanders used of the French manufactures they shall pay little or no dutys, which is a way wholly to take out of the Hollander's hands the advantage they had by carrying their French traffick into other parts, especially northward. One reason why this resoluçôn is taken, proceeds from their observaçôns that since the Northerne Company hath been established here, they send to & have returns from the Baltique Sea of near a hundred ships yearly to good account. Most of the vessells they have hired or

¹ Louis XIV. had given his consent to this marriage, but Mme. de Montespan used her influence to break it off on account of Lauzun's ambition. See *Madame de Montespan et Louis XIV.*, par Pierre Clément, p. 32.

² Gottlieb, Comte de Windischgrätz.

³ See p. 53, n. 5.

bought of the Dutch & laden them with French commodities, which heretofore the Dutch had the dispersing of in those parts. Already also the French perceive the conquest townes in Flanders to flourish more & more in point of Commerce, since they have desisted from trading with the Dutch for French wares, & have them out of France at much a cheaper rate. Now whatever advantages the French propose to themselves by this resolution, though they have some ends in incomoding the Dutch, they will certainly find other nations as unwilling to receive their manufactures as they, in a manner, refuse to take those from abroad.

2. The second thing resolved on is the endeavouring, by all imaginable means, to draw the English & Portugueze into a Triple League with France beyond the line, therby to become masters of the Commerce, as the Hollanders are to the prejudice of Portugall. This I believe y^r Lopp may have heard of, & therefore I need not enlarge upon its possibility.

Here is lately arrived from Guiny an *Envoyé* sent by the King of Ardre. His name is Dom Matheo Lopes & son of a Portuguese. Yesterday hee had Audience from his Ma^{ty}, at which hee fell flat on his face, & clapp'd his hands very often before hee made his speech. Here are severall idle discourses upon the occasion of his coming, but most agree that the French desired that he might be sent to give a colour & shew of traffick to adventurers, they having of late been very backward in hazarding their stocks on that foundation. Hee hath brought with him 3 wives & as many sons; the fourth wife he kill'd by the way for jealousy. Hee converseth every day with *Mess^{rs}. de Commerce*.¹

The Comte de Windeschgratz, the Emperour's *Envoyé*, arrived here a few days since. The main busines he hath to negotiate is said to bee about Lorraine, & some say he brings a proposiçõn with him of a match between Monsieur & the Emp^r's sister, though others will have her to be married to P^{ce} Charles of Lorraine. I believe hee hath orders also to discourse about a declaraçõn this King lately sent to the Empire, about his pretentions to some places in Alsace, that he had staid long enough expecting satisfacçõn, but now that he would doe himselfe justice.

¹ The members of the *Conseil de Commerce*, instituted in 1644. His object was to make a treaty of commerce between the King of Ardre (in Africa) and Louis XIV. See *London Gazette*, dated January 6, 1670.

Your Lopp hath heard, by the last, of a surprising match between Mad^{le} de Montpensier & the C^t de Lauzun, to w^{ch} the King had soe far consented, that all the nobility & gentry, (the Princes of the blood excepted,) made their compliments to her thereupon. But a cloud hath since overcast the great satisfaction they proposed to themselves. Monsieur & the Prince of Condé entertained the King strangely upon this subject, upbraiding him of having made up such an unequall alliance; the Queen also was extremely troubled & all together soe discomposed the King, that on Thursday night last, he sent for Madam^{le} & told her that as to his owne inclinations, since she had desired it, he was well enough satisfyed with the choyce shee had made. But since that every body laid it wholly at the King's door, as having a particular kindnes to Lauzun,¹ he was resolved to disabuse the world, & declare she should not marry him, but that he would give his consent to any other choyce she should make.

Y^r Lopp may imagine the mortification of these two after the publication & compliments, especially to the Count, who had already layd foundations on the hopes of his greatness.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Xtmas Eve, '70.

I have seen M^r Smith, & made him offers of all the good offizes & service in my power for y^r recomendation; his rela^{cion} to M^r Treñ² & his owne good qualifications, the Consull at Villafranca shall be indited to a correspondence. But as well he, as others have done, will desire news from England, & if I had y^r manuscript I could satisfy them all. To what I said in my last about Mad^{le}, I may now add that the King, according to his promise of considering the C^t Lauzun's disappointment some other way, hath bestowed on him lands to the value of fiveteen thousand pounds yearly, tho' shee

¹ In 1669, when the position of *Grand Maître de l'Artillerie* fell vacant by the resignation of the Duke of Mazarin, Louis secretly promised it to the Count of Lauzun, but the latter failed to keep the secret. Louvois heard of Louis's intention and dissuaded him from it. Lauzun, indignant, is said to have broken his sword in front of the King, saying he could never serve under a king who broke his word. He was imprisoned in the Bastille, but, through the intercession of his friend the Count Guitry, was pardoned and made *le capitaine de la première compagnie française des gardes du corps*. (See *Nouvelle Biographie Générale*, t. 29, p. 957.)

² Trevor.

is become most impatiente declaring she will ever love him *ad finem*.

The King & Court remove this day to Versailles to passe away the holydays, 5 or 6 days there.

The Imp^l *Envoyé* has had his Audience, at w^{ch} he told the King he had something of consequence to communicate to him from the Emp^r & some P^{ces} of ye Empire, & therfore desired his Ma^{ty} to appoint a Minister to hear him, to w^{ch} the King replyed, that he would hear him himselfe then, or at any other time, but hoped that it was not concerning the busines of Lorraine from the friendship he had for the Emp^r & his readines to assist him at all times, to w^{ch} the *Envoyé* said he was not perfect in his instructions, but would in a few days demand another Audience.¹

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Jan. 2^d, '71.

The King's journey is said to begin about a week hence, & all the troops, that are ordred to march, are to be furnished with provisions, &c.^a as if they were designed further then a meer review. And what is thought will be the first enterprise, is his Ma^{ties} taking possession of Juliers by agreement with the Duke of Nieu-berg, *moyenant* a great sum of money said to be lately sent him, & some are of opinion, that the King may protect the s^d Duke in his pretentions ag^t the Dutch about the citty of Ravestein.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: January 3^d, 167⁹.

Our English post is not yett come in & all of consequence that hath occurred is the death of Hardwin de Perefis, Arch Bishop of Paris, & Chancellor of the King's Orders, w^{ch} dignity is by his Ma^{ty} conferred upon the Marq^s of Louvoy. But for that of his function there are severall pretenders. The Card^{ls} de Retz & Bouillon stand fairest for it, tho' M^r Colbert endeavours the putting in the Bp of Chaalons; ² there are besides the Arch Bpps of Auch³

¹ See Montagu-Arlington Letters (*Hist. MSS. Comm.*), p. 493.

² Jean de Maupeau was Bishop of Chalon-sur-Saône, and Félix Vialar de Herse, Bishop of Châlons-sur-Marne.

³ Henri de la Motte-Houdancourt.

and Bourges¹ that have some hopes. About the middle of Aprill, the King designs to begin his journey into Flanders, where he will have a camp all the summer of about 40,000 men & another in Lorraine of 12,000. It is believed he will be absent all the summer from this place. The Emperour's *Envoyé* hath had a second audience, but I cannot yet learne what hath passed thereat.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Jan. 6, '71.

The King hath this week throwne downe all his manufactures, as loth to be any more at that expence & losse.

The Dutch Amb^r had Aud^{ce} on Munday, but I cannot yet learne what passed, it being in the King's Cabinet.

Since the news of an accomodation at Cullen, people speake of peace for the next year, though I hear that M^r de Louvoy has visited as well Spannish as French garrisons.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Jan. 7, $\frac{1}{70}$.

From the Mediterranean, these traders here have lost one of their ships, richly laden, valued at 5 millions of livres, w^{ch} was cast away coming from the Levant. There were only 2 seamen saved, & 20 knights of Maltha that were on board her, were also lost. They endeavor to encourage the Indy Traders here, & promise them some good account of their adventures thereby ; but the designe is only to squeeze out the payment of the 3^d quarter, for which the officers of the Parliaments of ye Provinces give their acquittances for a year of their wages.

The monopoly they are designing to make of ye *voitures* towards Lyons, causeth a great cry among the traders, who have sent a deputy to represent the consequences to his Ma^{ty}.

By *Arrest* of Counsell, they have reestablished the liberty of vending all sorts of merchandize in the severall provinces, where they shall be discharged also by the customers, but it excepts what comes from Geneva, in so much that all goods thence cannot be opened but at the custome house at Lyons, in what place soever they shall first arrive. This is a great stroke to spoyle the

¹ Jean de Montpezat de Carbon.

Geneva Trade, which the Lyonnois, & those of Marseilles, doe complain of as much prejudized by it, because Geneva brings out of Holland all sorts of spizes, sugars, cloth, & other merchandise, & furnisheth Provence, Lyons, Dauphiné, & Brest therewith.

Is the Emp^r entred into ye League as is reported here?

ce 7 Jan^{er}, 1672.¹

‘ Samedi, au soir, le Roy changea la resolution qu’il avoit prise d’aller en Champagne faire reveuë de ses troupes, et declara que ce voyage estoit tout à faict rompu, surquoy les grandes seigneurs de la Cour, qui avoyent desjà faict partir leurs equipages, ont renvoyé après, pour les faire revenir. L’on n’a pu encore penetrer quelle est le veritable cause de ce changem^t de resolution de sa Maj^{te}; cependant les troupes, qui sont en marche, ne sont point encore confirmandées.

‘ L’on a receu advis à la cour, qu’outre un nouveau traicté, qui s’est faict à la Haye pour la déffense de Cologne, entre l’Empereur, l’Espagne, et les Estatz des Provinces Unies, par lequel ils ont reiglé les secours que chacun deux y devoit envoyer, Dom Emanuel de Lira, Envoyé d’Espagne, a encore convenu avec Mess^{rs} les Estatz des articles d’un autre traicté, par lequel eux, et la couronne d’Espagne, s’engagent mutuellement a s’entresecourir d’un certain nombre de troupes, en cas que l’un de ces deux Estatz soit attaqué par la France, sans toutefois que l’Espagne soit obligée de rompre ouvertem^t avec le Roy très Chrest: en secourant les Hollandois, mais que cet Envoyé leurs promet d’obtenir de nouveaux pouvoirs, pour traicter une ligue plus estroitte avec eux, et une déclaration de la Reine Catholique en leur favour, en cas qu’ilz soyent attaqués par la France, sur lesquelles promesses, l’on ne faict pas grand fondz dans l’opinion où l’on est, que la Reine d’Espagne veut, à quelque prix que ce soit, se conserver la paix avec la France durant la minorité du Roy, son filz.

‘ Lundy, Monsieur Grotius, Ambassd^r de Hollande, eut l’Audience du Roy, qu’il sollicitoit depuis quelque temps, en laquelle il dist à sa Maj^{te} qu’il avoit ordre, de ses maistres, de luy demander la continuation de l’honneur de son amitié et de sa protection, à la quelle luy mesme, et le des Roys, ses predecesseurs, ils reconnoissent devoir estre obligés. Et aussy, de leur costé, ilz ont toujours tesmoigné un

¹ The date should be 1671 according to the letter which is attached to the MS.

grand zelle pour les interetz de sa couronne, que cependant ils avoyent appris que les Ambassad^{rs} et Ministres de sa Maj^{te}, qui sont dans les pays estrangers, publioient que les grandz armementz, que faict sa Maj^{te}, estoient destinés contr'eux, surquoy ilz protestoyent à sa Maj^{te}, qu'elz n'avoyent jamais rien faict, qui la pust offenser, et que, si dans le suite des affaires, il s'estoit passé quelque chose dans leur conduite qui eust desplu à sa Maj^{te} contre leurs intentions, ilz la suplioient de le leur faire scavoir, et qu'en ce cas ils luy offeryent toute sorte de satisfaction, non seulement par sa bouche, mais encore par la lettre qu'ilz luy ont écrite sur ce sujet, que cet Ambassad^r presenta à sa Maj^{te}, qui, en la recevant, luy dist qu'il scavoit desja son contenu, ses Maistres en ayant faict part à divers Princes, qui luy en avoyent envoyé coppie.

' La réponse, que le Roy fist à cet Ambassadeur sur son discours, fut, qu'il estoit vray qu'il avoyt de grandz sujetz de n'estre pas satisfait de la manière d'agir de ses maistres, que, depuis quelques temps, ils les avoit toujours trouvés oppozés à ses interetz et à ceux de ses alliés, qu'il avoyt commencé un grand armement, et qu'il estoit resolu de le continuer pour l'interest de sa gloire, et pour la protection de ses sujetz, et celle de ses amys.

' Après cette Audiance, le Roy donna à M^r le Prince, qui y estoit present, la lettre que les Etatx luy ont écrite, et luy dist de la lire, ce qu'il fist avec M^r de Turenne, et en presence de quelques autres seigneurs de la Cour.

' L'on juge par la reponse de sa Maj^{te}, ainsy que par d'autres circonstances, qu'elle n'est pas resoluë de recevoir les satisfactions que luy offrent les ditz Etatx, quoy que Messieurs le Tellier et Colbert ayent este nommés avant cette Audiance, pour recevoir ses propositions, sur la demande que le dict Ambassad^r a faicte, qu'on luy donnast des commissaires.

' L'on a advis que M^r de Louvoy, après avoir visitté Ath et Charleroy, est allé à St^t Hubert, et de la, à Nuits¹ dans l'Electorat de Cologne, conferer avec l'Electeur de ce nom, sur les affaires de la guerre, qu'il se dispose à entreprendre contre les Hollandois, moyenant la protection du Roy, qu'il y a faict passer de nouvelle artillerie, et a vizitté les magazins d'armes, et de munitions de guerre et de bouche, qui se sont faitz en ce pays, par ordre de sa Maj^{te}, ainsy que les troupes françaises que l'on y a mises sur pied. L'on a appris que le S^r de Podwitz² n'a esté destiné p^r commander

¹ Nuyx.

² Henri, Comte de Podewilts, 1618-1696.

les troupes du Duc d'Hanower¹ qu'à dessein de les amener au service du Roy très Chrestien, et qu'il este party pour se mettre à la teste de 2,000 hommes des dites troupes que ce Duc est convenu de prester a sa Majesté, pour en secourir ses alliés.

' Quoyque le Roy ne marche pas en Champagne, l'on continue de dire que Mr de Turenne ira à Metz, et de là à Verdun, pour voir son Regiment d'Infanterie, qui est en garnison en cette dernière ville, et si l'on fait un destachement des troupes du Roy, comme il a esté proposéz, au nombre de 20 mille hommes, pour aller joindre les troupes de l'Electeur de Cologne, l'on croid que ce sera mon dict Sieur de Turenne qui commandera cette armée, ainsy que celle du dict Electeur. et des autres Princes alliés de sa Majesté. L'on mande de Chaallons,² qu'aussytost que les Mousquetaires du Roy y ont esté arrivés, on les a faict marcher à Metz, et de Nancy, que les officiers des gardes du corps du Roy, qui sont en Lorraine, ont receu ordre d'en destacher 300, et de les mener à Metz, où ilz ont ordre de se rendre le 6^e du courant, et où toutes les autres troupes continuent de marcher, n'y en ayant point encore de contermandées, nonobstant la rupture du voyage de sa Maj^{te}, plusieurs croyent mesme, que ce pretendu voyage du Roi n'a esté qu'une feinte, afin d'avoir pretexte de faire marcher les troupes de sa maison, et que l'on crust, que ce n'estoit que pour assister à la reveue, qui se devoit faire, et luy servir de garde, et que c'est par cette raison, que sa Maj^{te} a attendu à declarer qu'elle ne partiroit point, que les dites troupes ayent esté bien avancées dans leur marche pour mieux couvrir ses desseins.

' Le Roy a donné à Mr le Camu,³ Procureur General de la Cour des Aides de Paris, la charge de Premier President en la mesme Cour, et a donné celle de Procureur General au S^r du Bois, filz du Premier Commis de l'Espargne, tout deux parentz de Mr Colbert.

' Mardi, le Roy fist assembler les dix compagnies du Régiment des Gardes, qui ont esté icy, et les fist mettre en bataille entre les chasteaux de S^t Germain, et sa Majesté, après en avoir faict la reveue, fist recevoir à leur teste le Duc de la Feuillade,⁴ en sa charge de Maistre de camp du dict Regiment, et ce Duc receut la pique des mains de sa Majesté.

¹ John, second son of Christian Lewis, Duke of Brunswick-Zell.

² Châlons-sur-Marne.

³ Nicolas le Camus.

⁴ François d'Aubusson, Maréchal de la Feuillade, 1625-1691.

‘ Le Mareschal de Bellefondz est dans le dessein de vendre sa charge de Premier Maistre d’Hostel du Roy pour payer ses debtes, et l’on croid, que le S^r de Villaserf,¹ Premier Maistre d’Hostel de la Reine, et parent de Monsieur Colbert, a dessein de l’achepter.

‘ Le S^r Molondin,² Colonel des Gardes Suisses du Roy, a trouve à Chaallons un ordre de sa Maj^{te} de ramener 4 des compagnies de ce Regiment, des sept qui estoyent en marche.

‘ Le Roy fera, à la fin de ce mois, une reveue dans la plaine de S^t Denis, des troupes italiennes, escossaises, et autres estrangers, qui sont en France, et dont une bonne partye ont leurs quartiers aux environs de Paris, et où les autres ont ordre de se rendre dans ce temps.

‘ L’on a appris, que l’une des raisons, pour lesquelles M^r de Louvoy est allé à Nuitz, a esté à dessein d’y établir une garnison de 3,000 fantassins et de mille chevaux des troupes du Roy, pour la garde des magazins, qui y ont esté faitz, et que mon dict S^r de Louvoy est entré dans la ville de Cologne ensuite de la conclusion de son accomodement avec l’Electeur de ce nom.

‘ Le Marquis de Capelmelhor,³ cy-devant Premier Ministre de Portugal, est nouvellem^t arrivé en cette Cour, pour prier le Roy d’interceder pour luy auprès du Prince Regent, son maistre, afin d’obtenir de luy la liberté de retourner en son pays, pour y vivre en homme prince, en telle ville qu’il plaira au dict prince de luy marquer, et a rendu a sa Maj^{te} une lettre de recommandation, qu’il a obtenue du Duc de Savoye à cet effect, et ce Marquis Portugais, s’estant trouvé à l’Audiance que le Roy a donnée à M^r Grotius, il le fist demeurer dans son Cabinet, afin qu’il fust present à tout ce qui s’y passeroit.

‘ Le Roy a faict scavoir à Mess^{rs} de Vandosme,⁴ qui estoyent pour lors à Rome, qu’ilz ayent à revenir en France par la mesme [route] qu’ilz ont tenu en allent, sa Majesté ne voulant pas qu’ilz reviennent par l’Allemagne, comme ilz en avoyent faict le dessein, et cet ordre les a encore empeschés d’aller à Naples, où ilz estoyent sur le poinct de se rendre lors qu’ilz l’ont receu.

¹ Edouard Colbert, Marquis de Saint-Pouange et de Villacerf, cousin of Colbert.

² Laurent d’Estavayé de Molondin.

³ Castelmelhor. See n. 6, p. 20.

⁴ Louis Joseph, Duc de Vendôme, and his brother Philippe, Chevalier, later Prince de Vendôme.

‘Aujourd’huy, l’on a chargé, au Thresor Royal, 8 chariotz d’argent monnoye, qui sont sortys de Paris, escortés d’environ 30 chevaux de la Garde du Roy, et les ditz chariotz estoyent tirés à six chevaux chacun.

‘Le destachem^t de 20 mille hommes des troupes du Roy, qui a este projectté, est destiné pour aller prendre possession des places de l’Electorat de Cologne, et pour les y faire hiverner.

‘L’on assure que l’on est convenu d’un traicté avec les Ducs de Brunswick, par lequel ilz s’engagent d’entretenir ^m₁₂ hommes pour la service du Roy, moyennant les subsides que leurs ont esté accordés, et que Mr de Pompone doit passer par leur estat pour signer traicté, et de là passer par Cologne, et que le dict S^r de Pompone apporte avec luy un traicté de renouvellem^t d’alliance, qu’il a faict avec la Suède.’

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 9, '71.

You see, in this paper, the particulars of the Dutch Amb^{rs} Audience, which agree with all other relations soe farre, but I can add one, which was the Amb^{rs} enlarging on his Master's continuing still to maintaine a friendship with the King had refused to hearken to some overtures made them by the Spaniards to enter into a defensive league. To which it's said the King replyed, that hee could prove the contrary, & that it was his Master had projected such alliance with the Spaniards; that therefore he would render himselfe yet more potent as not to fear all the alliances the Dutch could make against his interest, & that of his allies.

I have before me a letter from Mets,¹ dated the 3^d currant, wherein I hear that Mr de Crequi had made ready there four thousand barrills of wheat to be sent towards Nuits, & had embarqued 20 pieces of canon, nine chests of gold, coverd with corne, to be landed at Boom,² & soe on further; that he had ordred a great many boats to be on the river between Metz & Nancy, & had cutt the ice to make passage.

An expresse, from Mr de Pompone, brings an alliance he concluded with Sweden, after he had taken his leave. Its contents are said to be that crown's asisting the French against any but the

¹ Metz.

² Bonn

Spaniards, whose money they had received, & could not in honour doe anything against them.¹ It is concluded here, that the King has bought Nutch² & some other places on the Rhine, & that suddainly a body of army may move and fortify thereabouts.

I have searched among all the edicts & *arrests*, but find no new ones of late. As any come out, I shall have an eye to them.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 10, '71, S.N.

Herewith I send you what I have yesterday received from Marseilles, & have also to acquaint you with an important resolution, taken last night in the *Conseil d'Etat*, that an *arrest* shall be sett out forbidding the subjects of France, under great penaltys, to sell any salt, wine, or brandewine to the Dutch. 'C'est un coup de preven:' since the Hollanders have been soe long upon resolving on ye heightning ye impositions, after they had declared their intentions. The French pretend hereby extremely to incommode the Dutch, especially in their marine provisions, w^{ch} require much salt, but the other p^{ty} tells me they can be furnished with near as good from Portugall. As to the wines, the French could not doe them a greater kindnesse, since it will reduce the commonalty to the drinking of beer, & save the expence of wast in wine. And as to the Brandewynes, you know, S^r, they are already forbidden in Holland.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 14, '71.

You will hear loudly of a desperate attempt, made last night on the Princesse of Condé,³ by one Duvall,⁴ formerly her footman, who, having free accesse to her, whether it was for money, or what other matters may be in the wind, stab'd her with a dagger in one of her breasts, but thanks to her whalebone boddys, w^{ch} made ye weapon glance only, & though the wound be large, it is not deep, & consequently the Princesse in no great danger. The person is

¹ Spain had paid the rest of the subsidy owing to Sweden in August 1670 (Mignet, vol. iii. p. 284).

² Nuys.

³ Clara Clementina, cousin of Cardinal Richelieu.

⁴ For an account of this dispute see *Histoire des Princes de Condé*, par M. le Duc d'Aumale, t. vii. p. 291.

taken, & will have condigne punishment. It is said that among the many other preparacōns against Spring, the King hath brought up all the *flambeaux* he found ready made at Nancy, &c^a. thereabouts, to the number of 30 thousand, & hath caused more to bee made to follow his Army. The designe is, as many suppose, that in summer during the heats, the army march in the night, & in ye coole of ye mornings & eves. Moreover, it is reported, that when the King shall be at Dunquerque, at ye head of 40 th^d men, all his whole fleet of near 100 sayle shall be riding before that place.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Jan. 21, '71, S.N.

Herewith my L^d Ambassador transmitts to my L^d Arlington the Mem^o [*mémoire*], wherby this King promiseth to prolong, for the space of a whole year, the time for the arbitration of the *Dependances*, &c.,¹ but with an exclusion of any other matter whatsoever to be treated by the Arbitratōn than merely this one. Insomuch, that if Spain persist in its pretentions to have those contrepretentions liquidated at the same time, all this will signify nothing.

But in generall, you may gather hence, that there will be no warres in Flanders next summer, unles the maximes of surprise be brought upon the stage again. As to Holland, here are diverse discourses; some speak of a French ship called the 'Falcon' to be taken beyond the line by the Dutch, but there can be no greater preludiums of a rupture than by the breech of commerce already made *de part et d'autre*.

The King goes this day to Vincennes. To-morrow there will be great feasting, the next day masking, & the third hunting, for w^{ch} everybody must have three severall habits.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Jan. 23, '71.

M^r de l'Estrade² visited the Dutch Amb^r by order of M^r le Tellier, & told him that the King would not hear of any accomodation. Whereupon the Amb^r has resolved to see M^r de Pomponne, &

¹ See *Montagu-Arlington Letters*, p. 493.

² Godefroï, Comte d'Estrades. He had succeeded De Thou as Ambassador of France in Holland in 1669.

demand an Audience of *Conjé*. However, he does not believe he shall leave this place before the end of February. The King has made the following propositions to the Queen of Spain.

First. That hee had given another year for the regulating the *Dependances*, & if Spain would not have England to arbitrate, his Ma^{ty} was content to referre it to the Pope.

2. That for the cultivating a better correspondence, hee offred to make a League with Spain, which, if they believed, would choque the 3ple Alliance, France proposes to admit the Emperor instead of the Hollanders.

3^{dly}. That if the Queen would not declare against the Dutch, let her remain neuter & give them no assistance.

4. That shee give passage to the French troops, & in consideration of that favour, the King would quitt his pretencions to the 'Ecluses de Nieuport' & other adjoyning Ports.

And the last was a kind of marriage between the King of Spain and Mad^{lle} de France.¹

To w^{ch} the Queen is said to have answered, that shee would keep to the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, which permitted the succoring of allies. The French Amb^r replied, that the King, his Master, should bee then obliged to hinder it by maintaining an army of 40 thousand men to Flanders; another of 18,000 in Catalogne, one of twenty thous^d in Italy, & a great camp against the Dutch with whom he was to make warre.

Whereupon the Spaniards doubt not of a warre, & have sent Prince Percie into Germany to make a recruit of Germans for Catalogne.

The Count de Monterey hath written a very civill letter to the King, but, in conclusion, he intimates that he believes not that all these preparations are against the Spannish Low Countrys, yet, if it were, soe he was in a posture of defending them.

The Hollanders are sending Mr Van Beuning into Sweden, where they believe hee may arrive time enough to gaine those people, because the Treaty made with Mr de Pompone was only *de bouche*, & not yet signed. In the meantime, the Swedes are sending 16 thous^d men into Pomerania.

Twelve ships are gone from Zeeland with 4,000 men towards the West Indies.

¹ See p. 121, n. 3.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Jan. 24, '71.

We hear great complaints of poverty & misery for want of trade, & certainly the next year will convince these Ministers that more damage will arise to France by its late inhibitions than to any of its neighbours. As to this place, the ablest merchants cannot find ready money upon any account of trading as formerly.

I presume ours is at a stand in any thing but wines, which carrying ready money without exchange of goods for goods, I believe may be dispenced with, since these people pretend to doe the same in effect with our cloth, stockins, &c^a.

These three days past have been full of great *divertisements* & Banquets.

The Protestant deputies are in ye Bastille, & ye fellow that hurt the Princesse to be broken this day.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Jan. ult., '71, S.N.

From Marseilles Jan. 20, I am advised of S. Ed. Spragg's having taken an Algier man of warre of 36 guns, being a new ship that never had been before at sea. He mett her as he was cruising with one man of warre & a fireship, near the Island of Mayorca,¹ chased her six days till shee ran herselfe aground on the coast of Algiers, when, through much diligence, as dismounting the guns to lighten her, shee was gott off. In her were found the Captain & 32 Xtian slaves. She is sent to Tanger to be fitted out with all expedition, being an excellent sailor. At a Ball given two nights since by little S^r Geo. Hewet, among other maskers, I am told O'Brian² was present. Here is much discourse of a rupture between the Sweeds & Danes; I mean they wish it were soe, that the Sweeds' forces might be employed, & most believe that Munster doth nothing but by order from hence.

The Huguenots' deputies are yet in prison.

L'Abbé Courtillon,³ Bro. to the Marq^s d'Anjou,⁴ is made *Lecteur du Roy*, for w^{ch} he paid 80,000 livers.

Ye convent of ye Capucins won't receive la Valière without a dispensation from the Pope.⁵

¹ Majorca.

² Charles O'Brien.

³ Louis de Courcillon, Abbé de Dangeau.

⁴ Philippe de Courcillon, Marquis de Dangeau.

⁵ See n. 3, p. 32.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Feb. 7, '71, S.N.

A courier, lately arriving from Munster, hath put a stop to the levyes making here by the C^t de Koningsmarck ¹ for the Bp, since that a Treaty is concluded with the P^{ce} of Wolfembüttel, & nothing remains but the publication, w^{ch} the Bp. will not permit to be made before the garrison be taken out of Hoxter, whilst the other persists to have the Treaty proclaymed first.²

On Ash Wednesday, the King leaves this place for altogether, resolving to be at Versailles or S^t Germain's till hee begins his progresse, w^{ch} some will have to extend to the end of next winter, w^{ch} hee may passe at Tholon.

As to the matter of trade, I hear that the politician hath sent Commissioners into all the provinces & ports, with money to buy up the product of ye countrey & transport it themselves Northward, as formerly the Dutch did. This is believed may not turne to their account for want of ships & cheap sailing.

The generall opinion here is that there will be no warre this summer in any parts.

Yesterday night the King, Queen, Monsieur, & most of the Court, were at the *foire de S^t Germain's*.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Feb. 14, '71, S.N.

In y^r last Gazette, I find Mons^r Verjuss'³ name as if he was designed for the North, to establish there the French Commerce, but now I can assure you that hee is going, I mean gone, towards the Elector of Cologne, under the proffer of the Xtian King's protection & assistance in his differences with the citty, to endeavor the interrupting the Ducch Commerce to the Rhyne. Thence he is to visitt Munster & Wolfembüttel, to participate in the accomodation, if there be likelyhood of any, or rather to foment their broyles

¹ The famous general, Count Königsmarck, a Swedish nobleman, killed at the siege of Bonn in 1673.

² Rudolph Augustus, Duke of Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel, had been at variance with the Bishop of Münster concerning Hoxter, which was under the protection of the Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel family. (See *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1671, p. 14.)

³ Louis de Verjus, Comte de Crécy, French Envoy to Brandenburg.

to a degree that may engage the Empire in troubles. Hee told me, at parting, that he was also to receive new instructions as he past by Metz for his further proceedings.

Mad^{lle} La Valière, on Ash Wensday, put herself into the Nunnery at Charliot, with a message she left for the King, 'qu'elle n'emporta que son corps avec elle, lequel devoit commencer une penitence,' which the King no sooner heard of, but hee sent for her, whereupon she is gone again to Versailles.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Feb. 21, '71, S.N.

The C^t de Windisgrats, a few days since, demanded an Audience of the King, but he was answered that Versailles was no place for businesse. It seems he desired that the King would referre the differences with the Duke of Lorraine to the Emperor's arbitration, w^{ch} is well knowne here would fall in favor of the Duke, & therefore declined, because the King, if he hath any such thoughts, would rather restore it as an act of grace, than by that of constraint.

This week, one Pabst, an officer employed here by the Bpp of Munster, was imprisoned in the Bastille for having been somewhat lavish in his tongue, as if the forces his M^r was making were not so much ag^t the P^{ec} Wolfembutel, as designed ag^t the Dutch.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

S^t Dennis: Feb. 25, '71.

I hope in a few months to have the honor to acknowledge all y^r favor & protection in person, as I doe now y^r last of ye 9th, wherein you require an account of ye 4 East Indy ships, to w^{ch} I am glad to answer in another way, that the French Levant Company is upon the brink of breaking, of which, when I have a little leisure, I will send you at large the reason.

The Newfoundland's ships, preparing at Bayonne, will in all probability loose their season of going this year through the obstinacy of the mutinyed seamen & the ill successe of the C^t de Guiche,¹ who would have enregistred them for the King's service again, & they, with many protestations, have taken armes again.

¹ Armand de Gramont, Comte de Guiche.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : February 28, '71.

Mr Duras¹ is named to command the troops in Flanders. A great sum of money is sent to Guienne to buy up wines & Brandyes, w^{ch} are thence to be brought to Dunquerque for the service of the Army, & there shall be such quantitys of them as to sell them to strangers. All this seems to bespeake some great designe of bringing the wine into the same branch as the salt is at present, especially since it is proposed that the King should have cellars royall, & taverns, whence all strangers, goers & comers, shall be obliged to furnish themselves with wine & brandy. These cellars shall be such as the King of Spain & the Emp^r have in their countrey.

The S^r Carlot is at Hayre de Grace, where he imbarques for Guinny for the service of the W. Indy Company. This week, the s^d Company made a generall division of the last year's profit among the persons concerned, &, as I am informed, they gott no more than 4 per cent, but they promise themselves greater profit the next year, if they are not out in their calculations.

I have now particular accounts of the French proceedings at Lisle in order to our trade, of w^{ch} my L^d Amb^r will make the best use he can. But whenever we speak of grievances in that kind, they alledge that we, in England, began the heightning of dutys from time to time, that as then they were not soe clearsighted in the point of trade as now they are, & that nobody can take it ill if they endeavor all they can for the improving & advancing of trade.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 14, '71, S.N.

Mr de Louvoy goes hence on the 1st to prepare all things for the King's following him into Flanders on the 20th, where one designe will be to render Dunquerque capable of harboring a great number of ships, & of having the qualification of a free Port, whence much is promised for the improvement of Trade.

There are 2 marine Regiments marching to Amiens, being discharged from the sea service, & their officers ordered to raise more in their rooms.

¹ Jacques Henri de Durfort, Marquis, later Duc de Duras, nephew of Turenne.

The Treasure R^{ll} hath surceased of late the accustomed payments for the maintenance of the manufactures R^{ll}, designing to erect them into monopolies & distinct parts.

The King is at present at S^t Germain's.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: March 18, '71.

You will see, inclosed, something of the Marq. de Saissac being disgraced about cheating at Play.¹ He is since come to Paris, & putt himselfe into the Bastille, declaring he will not come thence till hee hath clear'd himselfe of those accusations.

Yesterday the new invented bridge was shewne to the King, with which hee is much satisfyed, & commanded that it should be kept from the sight of people yet awhile. As I understand it, it is to be taken in pieces & sett together again on the place, as occasion shall serve, & soe become portable to follow the Army.

The S^r Verjus is, in case of a peace between Munster & Lunenburg, to engage as many of their troops as he can for the French service.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: March 25, '71.

Because the King hath referred the Imperiall Euvoye for an answer to his being in Flanders, it is now generally thought he will, then & there, restore Lorraine into the Emp^r's hands, to be disposed of as he shall think fitt. M^r de Louvoy has undertaken the furnishing the army with a sufficient quantity of provisions, but many believe he will not be able to performe it, & of a suddain it's imagined this summer will rivell out in blood through the Munster quarrell & the assistance France & Holl^d may give.

The Parliament of Rouen hath lately given an *arrest*, since confirmed by an *Ordonnance* of the Intend^t of Normandy this very month, forbidding all Captains of ships, pilots, & other Protestants, as long as they shall be at sea, to say their prayers, or sing Psalms in their cabins, to the great consternation of ye sea officers that are in that province, since they must be bound to hear masse.

The inhabitants of Privas, a Protestant people, who had been

¹ See *Montagu-Arlington Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.), p. 498.

reestablished since the late troubles of Vivarets, & had signalled themselves ag^t those rebels, have been, within 12 days, through great violence to their persons & estates, turned out again from their habitations, not knowing where to settle themselves in surety.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: March 28th, '71.

In a few days I shall be able to send you an exact list of the French Infantry, Horse, & Maritime forces. What reason may be for it I know not, but everybody expects some considerable action, from the great preparations & likelihood of France's protecting either Munster or the El. of Cologne in the jars at present extant. They promise themselves here much from the coolnes in our English Court towards the Dutch propositions for the entring into a stricter alliance with us. As for our entring into one with these people, whatever fair pretences may be given, as long as we are abused to a strange degree in our trade, I don't see how it can consist—*non bene conveniunt*—& as long as the manufacture reigns, it is impossible we have any redresse.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: April 1, '71.

I was yesterday at S^t Germain's, where I understood that, by reason of the ill weather, the King thought of deferring the day of his progresse till the 5th of May.

In the morning, he bestowed on the Count de Lauzun, the gouvernement of Berry with 10 thous^d crowns a year. Mons^r de Bonneau¹ had also the charge of Introduc^r of Ambassadour in Berlize's place, *moyennant* 4 thous^d crowns to his heirs, Mr Tamboneau being not willing to give so much.

This day Mr Colbert setts out towards the sea coast, Rochefort, &c. to visit the magazines, preparations, &c. There are coaches of *relais* for his more speedy passage.

On Saturday, M^r de Louvoy begins his journey towards Lorraine, w^{ch} place, it's believed, may be restored, since the greatest parte of the troops will be drawne thence towards Flanders.

All this great charge & preparations at sea & land, in such an

¹ Michel Chatenet de Bonneuil.

extraordinary [manner], may comett some action, but where it will point is yet uncertain, & I really believe depends on emergencies.

I mentioned something in my last about the Huguenots, to which I have now to ad the great calamity falling upon them. The nobility, at the King's example in turning off all Protestants of his guards, &c. have also begun the like throughout all their estates, particularly the Duches of Eguillon¹ hath given order for it in her Duchy, & there is a kind of an inquisition in print of 160 articles distributed among all the curates, by authority of which, informations are admitted of, & some persons are condemned to death, others to the galleys for pretended scandalous speech ag^t the Roman religion fiveteen or 20 years agoe. And at Privas, in Vivares countrey, the Sr Fardeau *Bailly*² (sic) hath confiscated all the poor Protestants' estates, pretending they quitted not their habitations on ye day appointed.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: April 4, '71, S.N.

M^r de Bezons,³ Intend^t in Languedock, hath order to trace all his coast & enregister all the seamen he can find for the King's service. The Premier President of Provence hath also the like orders along his coast.

The Levant Company hath received advise from Constantinople of a likelihood that they shall have a very rich & profitable returne.

The King hath lately bestowed the Lieutenancy & gouvernement of Chasteau Trompette on Mons^r de Montegut,⁴ a Gascon, who was governor of Roercy [Rocroy] & is now succeeded by the Chev^r de Hilaire,⁵ Lieuten^t of ye *Gardes de Corps*. Mons^r Villars, who is to goe for Spain in the A. B.⁶ of Tholoze's place, is to receive two different instructions, one from Mons^r de Lyonne for ye affairs of State, & another from M^r Colbert for the improving & better establishing the commerce between France & Spaine, for w^{ch} reason the mer-

¹ Madeleine de Wignerod, Duchesse d'Aiguillon, niece of Cardinal Richelieu.

² Bailly = bailli.

³ Claude Bazin, Sr. de Bezons, intendant of Languedoc, 1653-1673.

⁴ Comte de Montaigu, lieutenant-general of the King in Guienne.

⁵ Jean François de Polastron, Chevalier de la Hilière,

⁶ Archbishop.

chants are ordered to give in their *mémoires* & three days in a week to conferre with M^r de Bellizani, Intendant of ye Commerce.

The S^r Riquet,¹ being advised that his worke of the *jonction des deux mers* will be examined this summer, doubles his endeavours for the putting it in a good posture, 'mais il y a grand apparence que les differents qu'il a à surmonter ne soyent plus grandes qu'il ne se l'imagine.'

The Port they are making in the Mediterranean for the mouth of the Channell is much forwarded, & it's thought it may be a very good harbor, because the foundation is good.

They expect here news out of Muscovy, & if they hear that all is quiet, a gentleman is ready to goe & establish a trade with the Great Duke.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: April 8, '71.

The news *à la main* mentions something of M^r de Magoletti.² I can assure you that he went thence three days agoe towards Italy, to raise two regiments, one of two thousand men, of which he is to be *Maistre de Camp*, & it is also believed he hath commissions to some Princes of Italy, 'pour prendre des mesures avec eux en cas de rupture.' The King hath given to the Prince of Piemont a Regim^t of foot of twenty companies, one Regiment of Horse of twelve troops, & a Company of *gens d'armes*. All the officers shall be named by the s^d Prince & shall be all Savoyards, or of Piemondt, & are to be raised in those parts. You see, S^r, hereby what stones are turning in all quarters for the rendring France very considerable in land forces as well as at sea.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Ap. 11, '71.

I need not take care of finding some way of continuing the advices to you in my absence, since here is one busines of soe extraordinary an importance as will keep me here & deprive me of the honor I promised myselfe of kissing y^r hands in England.

¹ Pierre-Paul Riquet, constructor of the 'Canal des Deux-Mers' or the 'Canal de Languedoc.'

² Comte de Bardi Magalotti, Colonel of the Italian Regiment. See *Montagu-Arlington Letters*, p. 499.

But as to what shall passe in the King's voyage, I have already taken my measures, & shall have from a faithfull hand the greatest secrets if there be any.

I cannot imagine what may be the issue of all these great preparations, but this is certain, if there be no warre, a great part of the nobility will be ruined, being already plunged in debt for the equipage the *pique d'honneur* forced them to make the last year. But this time they will all appear more splendid. If they could gett the whip hand of the ministers, there would certainly be warre, but as long as they are employed in all things that concerne the military state, & retrench the allowances of all Governors & Commanders of townes of halfe their former priviledges, there is little likelihood that the military faction can prevayle, unles there be a warre, & this is the reason that the Ministers are most against it. Therefore they find out such a *petit* excursion as that of Lorraine now & then to divert the King, & it is believed that, about the end of this *Campaigna*, they may putt him upon some little job or other.

PS. The camp before Dunquerque will consist of 28,000 Pietons & 6,000 horse, and the French troops coming out of Lorrain ought to be on the 20th *courrant* at Donchery & Mesieres¹ to embarque there & land at Chasteau Renau, thence to march towards Phillipville & the Camp.

The 'Grand Orient,' newly putt in at Rochelle without masts, sayle, or guns, reports that of six, shée, & two others that are putt into two severall ports, are all that are saved, & that the others are perished, unles the 'Grand St Jean' should have escaped & gott beyond them. On Tuesday, the East Indy Company sent a courier to Mons^r Colbert; it's thought 'que c'est pour luy prier de ne luy laisser pas perdre la mousson.' But the season is much advanced, & it's believed their ships will not be soe soon ready as they imagined.

Mons^r Colbert de Terron² is supposed to be dead, & his *grand chagrin* is said to be the cause therof.

The Sr Depuis, *valet de Chambre* to the King, has brought out of Spain 18 true Andalousia horses.

¹ Mézières.

² Charles Colbert, Seigneur du Terron, uncle of Jean Baptiste Colbert, died in 1684.

*To Lord Arlington.*Paris : April 15th, '71.

This day sennight, the King intends to sett forward, & the day following the Camp will be compleat before Dunquerque, as y^r Lopp will see by the following track.

The foot, that shall compose the Camp, shall consist of 28 thousand four hundred & eighty men.

From Lorraine & Barrois there will bee 11,060 men of Champagne Regiments thus--

' Compagnies	10	
Dauvergne [D'Auvergne]	10	Comp
du Roy	34	
De Lyonnois	11	
Du Dauphin	21	
De Crussol	10	
De Louvigny	10	
Royal des vaisseaux	21	
d'Artois	10	
d'Anjou	21	'

The fores^d 11,060 men shall goe from Verdun towards Phillipville, thence to Aeth, where they shall meet the Regiment of Castelnaud, w^{ch} will make them 11,560.

At Tournay 12 Companyes of Piemondt will be added to them, & soe become 12,460. At Lisle they will find 6,700 men composed of Picardy Regiments thus

' Comp :	10	
De Navarre	10	Comp
de Duglas [Douglas]	8	
de Turenne	10	
de la Reyne	10	
d'Alsace	15	'

Wherby there will bee 19,160 men at Lisle, who, marching to Dunquerque, will find there justly 9,320 men, composed of the French Regiment of Guards thus :

'Comp :	.	.	.	.	.	28
des Gardes de Suisse	.	.	.	.	.	9 Comp :
Normandie	.	.	.	.	.	10
de la Marine	.	.	.	.	.	10
de Rambure	.	.	.	.	.	10
de Sault	.	.	.	.	.	10
du Plessis Praslin	.	.	.	.	.	10
le Royale	.	.	.	.	.	10
de Bourgogne	.	.	.	.	.	10'

which, in all, will amount to 28,480 foot, besides four troops of the *Gardes du Corps* & three of the Dragoons, w^{ch} are to bee at Phillipville, & 12,000 men under the name of troops of the King's house; the troops that march from Lorraine shall be the 22nd Aprill at Elsendam, the 23rd at Fuernes, & the 24 at Dunquerque.

Mons^r Colbert, having been sick of the collick, caused by the extraordinary hast he made, is returning home, & expected here on Fryday.

It seems, that after the vast expence the King hath been at for magazins, &c^a. there hath been nothing done, or any considerable progresse made, in the designe first projected. Wherefore the King intends, at his returne from Flanders, about the end of July, to goe from hence to Orleans, Chambort, & thence to Rochell, & when hee shall have visited those places, he returns to Chambort, where hee will passe away the Autumne. Some days since he told the Marshall Grammont, 'que les Holandois luy vouloient faire la guerre,' and this was grounded on a discourse here that the Hollanders would not be exposed to such a yearly expence, but as soon as their army was compleat that they would not be idle.

The Emperour's *Envoyé*, since the answer the King gave him referring him for a categoricall one till his being in Flanders, hath demanded Audience, but can obtaine none.

It is very certaine that Lorraine will be restored, & to which of the young Princes that best please the King, but it is the generall opinion that, if there be any designe ag^t the Hollanders, he will keep it somewhat longer in his hands for the convenience of his troops.

The Marshall Crequi hath been chequed for what hee did lately on those frontiers by the firing of some guns & killing some men & cattell.

The Emperor hath written a large letter to his *Envoyé*, wherein hee pretends that, by reason of the confiscation of some rebell's estates in Hungary & the quietnes settled there, hee is resolved to have an army of 60,000 men, w^{ch} shall be no charge to the Emp^r or the States of the Empire.

The King intends to raise a new Tax & have 30^s upon chimneys, & is, in fine, become the generall merchant of all the Kingdome, as well in wine as salt.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Apr. 22th, '71.

Yesterday I was at St Germain, where I saw numbers of rich coats & garments. To-morrow the King sett's forwards towards Chantilly, where very expensive preparations are making for his entertainment the two days he shall stay there ; one particular is a night hunting in the fine wood, in order whereunto all the publick lanthorns of this place are carried thither, to be hung up on the trees, & frames are sent with little *flambeaux*, to be sett in the middle of the *jets d'eau*, which will be extraordinary diverting in the night time.

M^r Colbert is come back, & hath given a kind of a satisfactory account of what he went to visitt.

By the inclosed,¹ you will see what new incroachings are come on our manufact[ures], & complaints are already come to mee that the visiter[s] of ye Drapery have, in order thereunto, seised on some of our stuffs, pretending that they are not of sufficient length or bredth.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Aprill 25th, '71.

The King is gone this day from Chantilly forwards, on his way to Flanders.

You may, for once, believe the *Gazettier* in what hee saith of ye P^{ce} of Condé's great charge, & just now, I am told that his *Maistre d'Hostel* hath killed himselfe, because the 'Greenfish' came not in due time.

The King hath sent for the C^t de St Geran, in order to his going for England, hee having altered his choyse of ye C^t de

¹ The enclosure is missing.

Grammont, for some private reasons. The Ducch Amb^r follows the Court & the C^t de Windisgrats is going homewards, leaving his negotiation imperfect, though it is believed the King will, of himselfe, restore Lorraine to P^{ce} Charles upon his coming hither & making his submissions and conditions.

I pray advise M^r Dodington¹ not to send any newspapers, or any thing else, wherein reflections are made on the persons of Princes, M^r de Lyonne having complained of one that was scandalous to the King of France. This *ab amico*.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : May 2^d, '71.

Here is no dram of news stirring. The Court, it's thought, may be back here about the end of June at furthest. The match, between the C^t de Lauzun & Mademoiselle, holds on again, nay, many believe it consummated, though not thought fitt to be published till such time as the King shall have conferred proportionable honours on the Count. At first the Governem^t of Languedock was thought upon, *moyenant* a sum to the Duke of Vernueil, but Monsieur opposed it, to stop whose mouth he hath the renew of Rimanlin near Blois & Nemours near Fontainbleau, besides 4,000 *louis d'or*, given him lately by the King, soe that now another thing is *sur le tapis* for ye Count, viz^t—the making him ViceRoy of all the Conquests in Flanders, & Artois to be joined to them in one gouvernement, *moyenant* a sum to ye Duke of Elbeuf,² the present Governor of Picardy & Artois.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : May 9th, '71.

It is the generall discourse here that the King will bee back here about the middle of June, so that the Hollanders may unbrace their drums & calculate their expences, to which they may be exposed year after year if they come not to some assured accomodation, w^{ch} some say is at present on foot, even to a near understanding. But I hope this may prove only a supposition & not a reall matter in agitation, though I am assured that De Wit

¹ John Dodington (Dorrington), Secretary to Lord Fauconberg's Embassy to Italy in 1670.

² Charles III, de Lorraine, Duc d'Elbœuf (1620-1692).

hath been endeavouring to bring something *sur le tapis*. I have heard of a strange scandalous meddall the Dutch have lately made by authority, which is thus described to me, viz^t Peace is trampling on a Fury that hath a face exactly resembling his Ma^{ty} & women's breasts. But it may be these things are done by third persons to foment a jealousy between us.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : May 16, '71.

I am advised from Rochefort, that of 35 King's ships which are there but five are in equipage, & they, with some others, are designed for salley, on what enterprise I cannot learne.

The King will be at Lisle the 25th, & here somewhat sooner than he first designed. The Court *se trouve ennuyé*, most of them having no money left; the great ones have lost all they earned at play, & left many debts behind them here for their trappings. The army has been sickly, & the monopolist that undertook the furnishing them with provision is much blamed.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : May 20, '71.

We hear from Flanders that the Marshall Crequi is designed to goe with some troops & assist the Elector of Cullen, others advise thence that the Duke of Luxemburg is to march with men of the Horse & encamp on the Rhine.

From other hands, I hear that the Bishop of Munster, thinking of an accommodation, the Duke of Lorrain retires his troops, & lends them to the E. of Cullen, insomuch that all, in generall, believe there may be some doings thereabouts, that the Dutch & Dukes of Lunenburgh will assist the citty, & that the French, Lorrainers, & the Elector's forces will besiege it.

You see, S^r, what we are forced to say at a distance, since we're far from any positive assertions.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : May 26, '71.

It seems that the Dutch have brought to passe with the Emperor that there will be no fear of France's acting any thing

towards Cullen, as was designed, & a certain prospect of troubles by engaging severall neighbours 'pro & con' in that quarter is vanished.

It may appear somewhat rhomantic to you, as it did to me, but I am confidently assured that there is bringing from Nancy a great brazen horse, which is of soe great weight, that 200 horses are employed daily to draw it this way. But there is no likelihood it can be brought hither these many months, according to the slow pace it moves. They are forced to cutt through woods, &c^a, for its passage. It is esteemed of very great value, & the King's statue is making to be set upon it.

It is said here, that the Duke of Lorrain's accomodation is made.

I have just now a letter from Spain of ye 13th May, wherin some hopes are given of Sir W^m's ¹ recovery, though they apprehend much some *fiebras tercianas*, which may endanger him, otherwise he may be upon his legs in a month's time.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: May ^{30th}/₂₀, '71.

Letters from Turin advise that the Duke of Savoy hath not thought fit to suffer one M^r du Clo[s] to make levyes of two regiments for this King's service, (of which I formerly gave you some information,) excusing himselfe from the small number of his subjects that were capable of bearing armes, & for which reason most of his owne guards were French; that he could not permit those few to leave his countrey to serve a King who had so many of his owne subjects to employ, soe that, hereupon, the person is gone for Florence, where it's believed he may speed little better, from the indifferency that Duke hath for the French.

The Pope has sent an expresse to call home his Nuntio, Bargulini [Bargellieni], with orders to passe to Avignon, as Vice-legat. He hath written back, that he could not goe hence till he had his Audience of *Congé*, &, at the same time, dispatched a Courrier to M^r de Lyonne, to know his Ma^{tie}'s mind, who returned his Ma^{tie}'s desire that he would stay till his returne, & have Aud^{ce} of *Congé*.

Here is arrived l'Abbé Vibo,² who came post from Rome to doe the office of Internuntio till the Pope should have made choyce of

¹ Sir William Godolphin, English Ambassador in Spain.

² Cardinal Cibo.

another Nuntio. Now, S^r, the present one is most unwilling to leave this Court, where he is much made of, which is the reason the Court of Rome would have him removed, accusing him of too much complaisance, &c^a, and all endeavours will be made, by these people, to have him continued.

The Marq^s S^t André Monbrun writes hither that the Turks had enter'd upon the undecided limits in Dalmatia, without staying for the discussion of those matters by Commⁿ, as was agreed upon by treaty; and that the Venetians, apprehending a new warre, had ordered all their subjects to give no occasion, stopping the Basta's mouths with presents.

M^r Colbert is to be here before the Court, to prepare all things for his Ma^{tie}'s returne. His son, the Marq^s de Seignelay, is come back from Rome into France, & will speedily [be] here, in order to his marriage with the great beauty & fortune of the house of Alegre,¹ which it seems, notwithstanding the former difficulties, is now agreed upon.²

The French complain of the rudnes of our people between Dover & London, & soe does the D. of Bouillon³ that he had not the title of *Altesse* given him.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris, June 6. 71.

The horse I mentioned, that was to be brought from Lorraine, came before the Louvre, being seven weeks from Nancy to the river side.

The King is expected here about the beginning of July, & all apprehensions seem to vanish of any action this summer, if soe bee the busines at Cullen be accomoded.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : June 10th, '71.

I have received some good news, from Marseilles, of Sir Ed. Spraag's success ag^t the pirates of Algier. My letter bears date the 30th of May, & its contents are, that on the 17th, after Sir

¹ Jean Baptiste Colbert, son of the 'Grand Colbert,' married Marie Marguerite d'Aligre, daughter of Charles Yves, Marquis d'Alègre.

² See p. 299.

³ Godefroi Maurice de la Tour, Duc de Bouillon.

Edward Spraag had battered 2 daies against the castles of Bugia, a place near Algiers (where many of their ships of warre were in harbor), hee sent in a fireship under the castles, where their ships were att anchor, but finding y^m barricaded by masts, &c, which they had thrown into the sea, was not only hindred from executing anything upon them, butt sunk by the Castles. Notwithstanding which, S^r Edward, continuuing still battering, armed out several boates & *brigantines*, sent them in, who cutt their barricades to make the passage clear, which done, hee sent in two fireships, who burnt twelve Alger men of warre, I suppose the whole number of ships in the Port, & most of their men are said to have perished aboard them. Sir Edward has sent five of his ships, that are maimed through the continuall battering against the castles, to Miniorke,¹ & is gone with the remaining 9 to Argier, where are 10 sayle more of their men of warre, & it's hoped, as good acc^t may be given of them as those of Bugia. This news was brought by a barque from Majorka.

Now I have given you this piece of good news, I think I am pretty well introduced to acknowledge the good line I received from you. I depend upon y^r good nature to pardon the freedome I have taken, as you may allways on my utmost acknowledgments in a cordial sense, though really I shall never be able effectually, to own ye continuance of such an obliging friendship. I spy a designe in the French to beseige Hombourg & Biche, but this is a secret yet, though it will not be so some weeks hence. They are towns in the hands of the D. of Lorraine pawned for a great sum, now the sum is like to be paid, & ye Emp^r, deputing some Electors to keep them till both parties be agreed, it seems the King will pretend to them as in the Duke of Lorrain's possession.

I pray, as the occasion gives you leave, represent me with all duty to my Lady Arlington, whose letter I have sent to the Fa: Patrick² to Besançon. He was with us 5 days, & as much made of as he could imagine or we, &c^a.

¹ Minorca.

² Father Patrick Maginn.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Lisle: June 28, '71.

I must now acquaint you, y^t we are more persecuted in our trade than ever as to our woollen manufactures, w^{ch} hitherto have received noe redresse as to ye high duties, notwithstanding ye woollen drapers of this towne have made it their request to ye magistrates, to depute some one of their assemblie to Mons^r Colbert to presente their greivance, & how y^t ye country people will cloathe themselves in ye neighbouring Spanish townes, to ye losse of their trade, whenas it's impossible for this city to make mixt clothe for many reasons, as want of ye abundance of wool proper for it, w^{ch} wee in England have, want of water & fulling mills soe proper, & want of ye same earthe, &, w^{ch} is as materiall as ye rest, want of art, nor can ever ye manufacture of this towne be afforded soe cheap as ye English, for ye magistrates gave a flatt denyall, that they would not medle in it, it being matter of state, & for advancem^t of ye commerce, those defences against forreign woollen comodities & interest in ye magistrature, besides, because severall of them are & have been clothiers, or, if not, are dealers in Spanish wools, & when ye vast quantities of our English manufactures, these late 2 or 3 yeares have come in, ye Spanish wools were [*sic*] of little value, & consequently ye cloathing trade of this towne, w^{ch} is only for white cours goods, excepting some few, it decayed every day, so as would be in danger of loseing, soe y^t w^t [what] little trade wee have at present by stealth, & at great charges, as I believe, in a short time wee shall be tired out, & must remove our stations. That w^{ch} troubles mee most, is y^t ye Prince of Liège, who is a Petty Prince, should enjoy greater priviledges to trade than his Mat^{ty}'s subjects for the clothe made in that Prince his dominion, w^{ch} is not a little corner in free of all duties, & payes nothing. Methinks it should be requisite, my Lord Amb^r were acquainted wth this affront to our nation w^{ch} I thought good to let you know, & shall beg the favour of you, &c.¹

S^r, is there noe remedie against the exportation of English wools, w^{ch} I am a daily spectator of whole waggon loads, w^{ch} come from Calais & other parts, & if they can bring such quantities now ye nights are so short, what will they steale out when the winter comes. As long as France can have such quantities of our wool at pleasure, wee must expect their presumption in prohibiting our

¹ These words are underlined in the MS.

fabricks, for so they beat us wth our owne weapons, & work our wool into their own fabricks. This is a sad greivance, & ye nation will soone be sensible of ye inconvenience. It's possible ye gentleman looses a little rente from ye tenant through ye abundance of wool & no consumptione for it, but ye nation will loose its trade & navigation in ye conclusion, w^{ch}, if the wool were kept in, there would in time be a greater demand for our fabricks, & so it would be all wrought within ye kingdome, whenas now it goes out, strangers undervalue our fabricks, by serving themselves wth our wool. You see how vigilant the King of France is, in continuing all advantages for ye trade of his kingdome & dominions. I wish we were as diligent, & matter of trade is *matière d'estat* in France now : it hath been heretofore so in England.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : July 1st, '71.

I send you here inclosed, a complaint of our ill-usage in point of trade, which being of as great consequence as the utmost violence can be offered to our nation, it may be hoped that his Ma^{ty} will please to give timely orders that it may as well be redressed on this side as the exportation of wooll severely prohibited, there being nothing more easy, if the officers would but apply themselves to it ; & if the few gentlemen of the countrey, whose profit it makes, had not soe great a faction as to countenance the transportation of it, for, in France, the officers are so vigilant, that a pair of gloves can hardly escape their view, when as whole ships come laden over with our wooll. Laws signify very little if they are not putt in execution. It is long since these complaincts have been made, & may be soe yet longer, till the French, at last, will not value our manufacture nor come to any Treaty of Commerce with us, since at present it is more to their advantage. You perceive how the Dutch treat them, nay, of late, in their teeth have they contrequarred them & made the impositions higher on the French goods, on designe only to bring them to reasonable termes. *Basta.*

For news I have little or none. There has been a quarrell lately at Court between the D. of Longueville & ye C. Lauzun about something of Md^{ll} de Montpensier, & the former intended to have made him draw his sword, but a friend to both discovered the busines & soe it rests. I am told that the great man is smitten

with a young lady, daughter to ye mo[ther]¹ of the Maids [of Honour] & intends a second conquest in the Pays Bas.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : July 4th, '71.

All the discourse of this is of the consequences in case Brunswick should hold out & have assistance from Sweden, as the Princes have a Regiment from Denmarke. But what is most wonder'd at, is the great levies making in all places for the King of France, his augmentation of French, those hee expects out of Switzerland, Italy, Ireland, and Scotland, which will render his army most prodigious & capable of doing anything before ever others could putt themselves in a posture to oppose him. Many believe that the retarding his journey proceeded from his desire to see what becomes of Brunswick. The disputes between the P^t [Parliament] & the *Maistres des Requestes* have made a great bustle, insomuch that there has been buffetting in the *Palais*, & undoubtedly the latter will have the better from Court & the other be chequed a little in their priviledges.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : July 11th, '71.

All the news of this place is the Duke d'Anjou's death² yesterday, insomuch that the King will come to S^t Germain's this night too late to see him, the chief Phisician having assured him that he would preserve him alive till his Ma^{ty} came. But these things are past the assurances of any humane, how skillfull soever. What you were pleased to transmit to mee about the defeat at Bugia,³ I am putting into French that it may be also printed here, notwithstanding the envious nature of these people, that will acknowledge nothing of great or glorious but what they doe themselves. I know not what to say to you as to the *demeslé* between the French Amb^r & the G^d Seign^r, or the consequences of it. But this is certain, he has made loud complaints hitler of his ill-usage & the great duties laid on the French nation, more than on any other. Besides the demand of a great sum of money, the Turks insist

¹ *I.e.* the governess of the Maids of Honour of the Queen.

² See p. 7, n. 2.

³ See letter dated June 10, 1671.

upon a reparation for the false ducats the French have from time to time brought thither. I am told that the King has sent a message to the C^t de Montereï, wherby hee advises the C^t de Molina not to proceed on his embassy hither, as he has on this side stopped M^r de Villars going for Madrid. Some imagine this to proceed from what passed at Vienna; others ground it upon the report the ABp of Thoulouze has made of his negotiation there. From Madrid wee have the Jamaicans attempt confirmed, & great noise is in that Court upon such breeches (as they call them) of the late Treaty of Commerce.

There must certainly be some greate designe in hand against the Spring, because such vast preparations are making here of land-force; it is said that, besides which, the King has an influence on all the Lunenburg, Cullen's & Munster's forces. I know not on what ground, but everybody says here that 6 or 7,000 men are raising in Ireland & Scotland for the French service.

Paris: July 15, '71.

The Court is putting itselſe into mourning for the Duke of Anjou, but they discourse variously of the time how long it will continue.

I told you in my last of some exceptions taken here ag^t the Spannish Court, even to the surceasing of all correspondence untill satisfaction be given. It seems that the ABp of Thoulouse has complained of his having been highly affronted at Madrid by the Duke of Albuquerque, & that he could obtaine no redresse.

I believe you remember there was some time since a scuffle at a procession among the Pages, & this is all that hinders Molina's coming hither & M^r de Villar's going for Spaine.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: July 25th, '71.

The great levyes the King is making in all parts seem to portend some action the next year, or it may be this summer, if the differences between the Elector & Citty of Cullen should come to blowes, as in all probability they will suddainly, least the latter have time enough to render itselſe stronger. Whatever the designe may be, *on s'attend à quelque chose*, & about the 20th of August, there are ordered 20 thousand foot & 6 thous^d horse to be

encamped near Metz. Some say the King will passe some time at Fontainbleau, others that hee intends to goe suddainly to Compiègne, but the most probable is that hee will settle upon noe resolution till hee hears what satisfaction he shall have from the Courts of Vienna & Madrid upon the late pretended insult offred his Resident in the Emp^rs Court. It seems that hee has be[e]n at very vast expences of late, since his treasure is soe much exhausted, that this weeke he has demanded an advance of eight millions of his farmers, which many thinke they are not able to furnish him with. Notwithstanding which, here is now a working for his service a whole sett of gold plate, besides great massy silver tables & stands.

It is thought that one M^r du Choupe, at present in Holland, (& in a pretended disgrace here,) is there only, being an able engineer & a cunning man, to give what intelligence he can of that countrey. And accordingly, he has written to Court how that the states designe the having 80 sayle of ships at sea the next Spring, & 25 thous^d landmen on board them to make a descent upon occasion, besides a land army of seventy thous^d men they will have for the defence of their countrey, adding that, if France doe not fall out with them, they will begin first with France.

The men that are raising in Italy are to be here in September, about which time the levies making here will be compleated twenty five thousand men, to the end they may be exercised & made fitt for service att Spring.

The Dolphin has of late been troubled with soundings,¹ which has induced the Doctors to leave off bathing him.

The Count de Windisgratz is named, by the Emp^r, to goe his Amb^r Ex^{ty} to the Crowne of Sweden, in order, as I am informed, to make a league between his Imp^l Ma^{ty} and that of Sweden.

Mons^r de Louvoy is come back from Lorraine, where he had a view of M^l Crequi's army, & given many commissions to reformed Captains for the raising new troops which, that there may be the better discipline, he drew out of each troop 15 men, soe that the Captain is to add 35 of them.

The King has ordered St^t Quentin to [be] fortified since the discovery of Van Beverning's² proposition at Madrid, in case Spain would break with France. The politicians here have been much out in their measures, for they never designed that Brunswick

¹ *I.e.* swoonings.

² Jerome Van Beverning (Beverningk), Spanish Ambassador to Holland in 1671.

should be besieged, nor that the Bpp of Munster's forces should be idle. But since affaires have not be[e]n favourable hitherto for great actions, every body here makes no doubt but there will be a warre at Spring. Notwithstanding that, some of the Ministers doe much oppose the thoughts of any.

The French talke great of the fleet they will have at sea, & they say that their want of seamen will be supplied by land souldiers. There is working at the Louvre a very rich & large *Pavillen* for the *Grand Louis*.

I have a letter in 20 days from my L^d Middlesex¹ that sais how Taffilett is at present in Fez, having disbanded his army & sent all to their owne countreys except some few blacks, which remain a guard to his person; whereupon the enemy near Tanger becomes numerous; that the forces in sally increase dayly; that 9 were then cruising abroad, & four more, which Taffilett is fitting out of 20 guns each, would be in a month ready to goe out.

We hear from Spain of their suddain resolutions to send 10,000 men to the W. Indys, in order to the reducing of Panama. But it may be, when they are there, Jamaica may also be in their eye.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Aug. 5th, '71.

I believe this may find you returned from y^r Plymouth voyage. The King is gone for Fontainbleau, where his stay may be till the 14th. Hee has received a letter from the Queen of Spaine, wherein shee disavows the knowing anything of what his Ma^{ty} complains, of affronts offred his Resident at Vienna by the Spannish Amb^r in concert with the P^{co} of Lobkowits, concluding that in such case the King shall have all the satisfaction he can desire.² It seems that affaire is shuffled up at last as a private *demeslé*. M^r Stoup³ is gone for Switzerland to raise 6,000 men there at six crownes a head, and the C^t de Koningsmarc is to have the command of a Brigade raising in Germany of 2,400 horse. All the reports of the King's going to Lorraine, to Sedan, Compiègne, &c. are only amusements to continue the Hollanders & others in alarme. What

¹ Lionel Cranfield, Earl of Middlesex (1625-1674).

² See *Recueil des Instructions données aux Ambassadeurs et Ministres de France en Espagne*, par A. Morel-Fatio, t. i. p. 261.

³ Pierre de Stuppa, Colonel of the Swiss Regiment.

is most expected here is the result of the Empr^s being at Ratisbonne. Fa. Patrick is with us & tells us a strange story of a young virgin, of about 26, at Troyes, that has eaten nothing but the sacrament these 9 years, & that from her middle downe she is quite dead. This the Abbot saw, he sais, &, if true, is a kind of a miracle.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : August 9th, '71.

The King being att present at Fontainebleau & having caused a kind of surcease of busines during his stay there, here is little of moment worthy your Lopp's knowledge.

Att his Ma^{tie}'s returne only from St Germain's the Commissions will be given out for the new levies of foot, & those for the horse will not be deliverd before ye beginning of October. Some say that they are deferred till then because the King is unwilling to take up any money by advance, & about that time his owne revenue will furnish him sufficiently, it being at present generally believed that his coffers are very low. And, in order to the amassing of a good treasure, hee has stopped the four millions that were to be paid o' course for vacant charges, & all payments to Governours of Provinces & officers of his house. In generall, all things seem to bespeak a warre att spring, and, notwithstanding *la parole donnée*, most believe that Flanders is the object; however, it were convenient that all neighbours be on their guards. A person of quality was discoursing yesterday very familiarly of our affaires in England, & not knowing the relaçon I had to it, was very brisk upon the facility of making an attempt upon us att Chattham, in order to the destroying of our great ships. He said he had lately seen the fortificaçons at Sheerness, that he approved of them as to what was towards the sea, but that it was easy to land a few men not farr from it with whom hee pretended much might be done without any great opposiçon, because we had noe fortificaçon to the landward. I acquaint y^r Lopp with this, to shew you that sometimes these people look towards us, &, notwithstanding the exteriour shew of friendship, they cordially mean otherwise, the English reputation & honour being an eyesore unto them, which will ever improve as long as his Ma^{ty} shall be dreaded and courted at once. Mons^r Colbert wrote hither out of England, a letter, wherein hee assured the Ministers that he had at last gotten

a prevayling interest att Court, & could doe what hee pleased. The whispering discourse here is that the King will make all imaginable efforts to buy Sweden off, by offering a sum by way of a present, & giving them more yearly than they had from the Spaniards, which may prevayle, considering the present poverty of those people, unless the negotiaçôn be contrequarred.

New complaints come dayly of our English merchants being much abused in their trade in the Pays Conquis, that the French give the little P^c of Liège those priviledges which they deny us. I wonder how they can pretend to court his Ma^{tie}'s friendship at home, when his subjects are so manifestly insulted on abroad.

From Marseilles, they write that a person is going thence towards Dalmatia to raise a Regiment of Horse for the King's service, his Amb^{rs} at Venice having, it's said, obtained leave of the Republick, as that of Luca has granted such to the S^r Magalotti for the levy of three hundred. It's somewhat strange that, at the same time, the King should make levies in all places of Xtendome, the Cantons having given leave for 6,000 *Suisse*, at six crowns a man, to be raised by one M^r Stoupe, for the French service. I hear that six hundred Scotch are arrived at Dieppe, being my L^d Douglas's recruits. Amb^r Molina wrote to the Spannish Resident, that he had caused to be revoked the permission granted for the raising some men in Ireland.

I have a note from a Correspondent at Court, which sais thus: 'On a des nouvelles icy que les Holandois envoient un Amb^r Ex^{tr} en Espagne pour obliger la Reyne a rompre avec la France, ou la menaçon de partager avec elle le reste des Pays Bas.'

The processe against the S^r de Montvergue¹ goes hard against him, & it seems he is like to be sacrificed for all the losses this East Ind'y Company has suffered in the Ind'yes.

The S^r de Gremonville has sent a courier hither, giving an account of an accomodation in the late pretended affront, & that he had not delivered the letter his Ma^{ty} sent to the Emp^r, wherein the King treated him somewhat roughly, but had given him another in milder termes, the both being sent that the Resid^t, as he saw fitt, might deliver either. These people are mighty glad

¹ Director of the French East India Company. According to the *London Gazette* dated September 4, 1671, he succeeded in clearing himself of all the charges made against him. See p. 118.

that the *brouillerie* is thus passed over, because all agree that the Resident was much in the wrong.

The C^t de Koningsmarc has engaged himself to raise in Germany a Brigade of 24 Troops of Horse, which he is to command, & is to have sixty thousand crownes to make the levies.

The present state of the land forces is 60 thous^d foot, to which will be added two hundred new companies, besides the troops of the King's house of 15 thous^d horse that will be raised ag^t next spring.

The King has offred a thousand pistolls to any person that shall make a distich in two verses to be putt on the frontispiece of the Louvre, which shall be approved of to be the best, soe that all the witts are very busy in France & Italy, but it's believed the author of the following distich will gett the Prize

‘ Par Urbi domus est, urbs orbi, neutra triumphis
Et Pace & bello par Lodovice tuis.’

Fa: Patrick went hence towards Lisle yesterday, after having been much caressed by all persons here.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Aug. 15, '71.

The inclosed¹ will give you all the news of this place, excepting a new Proposiçôn made to the King by certain Undertakers who have been some years digesting it with some method. It contains, principally, the giving the King every day a million of livers or a hundred thousand pistolls, in lieu of all his revenue. They pretend, hereby, to ease the people of much oppression, as particularly they shall pay no Land Tax, onely each *Paterfamilias* shall pay according to the number of children & servants, it may be 20 sous a head, besides a chimney money & a new invention for the distribution of salt, wherby the *Gabelles* will amount unto twice as much as formerly & no burthen to the people. It seems the many thousand officers employed for the *Tailles*, *Gabelles*, &c. will be thus retrenched & consequently so much saved. There will be no *droit d'entrée sur le vin*. This is likely to take effect, as many believe, & herein the nobility is not spared.

¹ The enclosure is missing.

*To Lord Arlington.*Paris: August 15th, '71 S.N.

The greatest matter of discourse, in this place, is the match said to be concluded between Monsieur & the Princesse Palatin, in order whereunto the P^{ccss^c} Palatine, her Aunt,¹ is going hence towards Heydelberg. It is said that the Ceremony will bee att Chaalons, in Champagne, about two months hence, and his R^{ll} H^{sse} will meet her att Metz, having sent Marshall du Plessis Praslin to receive the Princesse in his name; her jointure is settled at $\frac{m}{100}$ livres a year. The King has resolved to cause a Carouzal to bee made, & other *divertisements*, for the solemnizing this marriage.

This week, M^r de Louvoy has caused near two hundred Commissions to be deliverd to as many captains of foot, with 50 pistolls to each for the raising their men, and it's said, that, at the King's returne from Fontainbleau, as many will [be] given out to other Captains. The *Chevaux legers*, which are to consist of 86 Troops of 50 men in each, will not be ordered to be raised before the end of October. The last news out of the Pays Conquis is that abundance of the souldiers have deserted their colours because of the great fatigue they are putt to in working on the new fortifications, of which I have all the plans here ready to transmitt to y^r L^op by the first occasion, that you may see what has been done there since the warre. Here are deputies come thence to petition his Ma^{ty} that an *Arrest du Conseil* be recalled, wherby no money is suffered to be currant of the Spannish coyne, excepting their pistolls, which the Deputies say is exceedingly to the dammage of all those people.

The S^r Moulier, the King's Resident in Switzerland, writes hither that he had presented a new memoriall to their Assembly at Baden, declaring, that if they would not conforme to the resolution of three of their Cantons not to enter into the 3ple Alliance, or any other against the French interest, they should loose the arrears of their pension. Their answer was, that they were resolved to maintaine punctually & execute the Treaty of a perpetuall peace & alliance they have with the King, according to

¹ Anne de Gonzague, widow of Edward, Prince Palatine.

its tenour, without explaining themselves as to the 3ple Alliance, they pretending that such treaty does not tye up their hands from entring into any other alliance they shall think fitt. And as to their arrears, they ans^d, that if the Resident did not cause them to be paid in September next, the 13 Cantons would send an Embassy to receive them from the King's owne hands. In the mean time, the Troops raising there are said to be near compleat, & that they will consist of above ten thousand *Suisse*. Wee hear that the Duke of Savoy hath made a new alliance with the Cath^{que} Cantons, including the P^{ce} of Piemont, *moyenant* some thousand ducats distributed among the Cantons.

From Italy, my letters advise that a Courrier had passed from the Court of Spain with orders to all the Spannish Vice Roys on the Mediterran: to seise on, by way of reprise, all the English ships & goods they can, imagining that what was lately done att Panama was by orders from England.

They write from Rochelle that M^r Colbert du Teron, Intendant there, has received orders to equip out twenty of the King's ships. but to this I cannot give much credit as very unlikely.

The C^t de Molina's Mayor domo, about 8 days since, passed this way towards Flanders, with despatches from Madrid, but at Peronne all his paquetts were taken from him, I know not whether by order or not; however the Spannish Resident has made his complaints att Court.

The King has had a new proposi^{on} given in by certain Undertakers, who will give him a million of livers every day, & pretend to ease the people of much oppression as the paying of taxes & wine duties. The foundation is a certain Poll tax or head money, without excepting the nobility, & a generall Chimney money, & a new invention for the distribu^{on} of salt, which will bring in twice as much as the *Gabelles* have formerly done. The land will not thus be taxed, but every man according to the number of his children & servants shall be rated at soe much, it may be two shillings a head. This, every body looks on as most feaseable, & has been some years digesting, but the nobility will bee much troubled if it take effect, as in all probability it will.

The Pope has proposed to the King, that in case hee will wage warre with the Turkes, besides what forces hee shall desire out of Italy, hee shall have great summs & notable ayds by dissolving of severall Religious Orders, tenths, & the like.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Aug. 19, '71.

I have advice from Fontainebleau, that the last courier from Heydelberg brought new difficultys as to the match for Monsieur, the Princesse Palatin being not inclined to change her religion, which is a necessary article in the marriage; & at Court they believe that the scruple will be soon over, soe that allready preparations are making for some great solemnities, the designe of which is kept as secret as if it were a matter of state. The ArchBp of Thoulouze is made *Grand Aumonier de la Reyne*, which is looked on as an 'effet du credit de Mr de Lyonne,' that in case of Regency he might have a great share in the *Ministère*.

The King & Court divert themselves extremely att Fontainebleau; however, he returns to Versailles in 8 days.

It is believed, & wth much confidence, that there will bee war this winter. As yett wee cannot give any certaine account where it may be. If the dependences in Flanders bee not adjusted in time, it is indubitable that, even in the winter, some place will bee beseiged. By the end of September, there will bee compleate in France a hundred & twenty thousand foot & thirty five thousand horse.¹

The Spannish Resident carried to Court, the last week, a letter of condolance upon the Duke of Anjou's death, when, being asked by the Minister why the Queen sent not an Envoy on purpose, hee replied that her Cath^m Ma^{ty}, having heard that the King had refused to admit of her Amb^s, she thought an Envoye would bee much lesse acceptable.

Letters out of Spaine advise that the preparations for the Indyees begin to slacken upon the advice they had received of the English having left Panama. Wee hear out of Germany that the affaires of Cullen grow dayly more desperate, & upon them are grounded here some thoughts of action to counter the party engaged for the defence of the Citty. It seems the Holland & Nieuburg *Envoyés* have had a smart dispute for precedence, of which, for the allegation's sake, I transmit to y^r Lopp particulars.

In cipher, deciphered.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Aug. 29th, '71.

Here hath happ'ned this week a matter that may prove of great consequence. It seems the Governour of the Low Countreys, visiting the frontiers, found a *Bureau* established by the French, (as hee pretends,) on the Spannish territories, whereupon hee sent the Gov^r of Ypre to Lisle with complaints, but had noe other answer than that they should bee represented to the King. Whereupon some Spannish souldiers were sent to beat downe the *Bureau* & take away the Registers, which they did, & the M^l d'Humiers has given the King an account of it, who has, I hear, sent orders that the *Bureau* be sett up again in the same place *de gré ou de force*, & that some troops be gott together to see it done & authorise the same in case the Spanniards should endeavour to oppose it. On whatever side the wrong bee, it is most certain that the rules of the Arbitration are infringed on. They have also given his Ma^{ty} an account that his troops diminish dayly by the vast numbers that desert the service, whereupon the King has resolved to grant a generall amnesty with a promise of augmenting their pay in case they will returne, because it is advised that the Dutch have entertained most of the deserters. Another thing troubles the Court, since the letters out of Germany mention the Emperors inclination to make the P^{ce} Charles of Lorrain King of the Romans.

The levyes in all parts goe on with much vigour as well as the maritime preparations.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Sep. 2, '71.

I much suspect y^e news from Algier, because here have be[e]n letters from Genes of a later date that speak only of our Admirall's being before that place with ten men of warre without mentioning any action, only one which makes a great noyse here, viz^t—his having taken 3 French ships with contreband goods on board & hang^d the three patrons as a proceeding pretended to be *très* rigorous & unjustifiable.

The Court is come from Fontainebleau & most intent on the new levies.

S^r H. Jones¹ is gone towards Germany, (as hee pretends,) in order to the raising most of his Regiment, though the officers are to bee all English & I believe old ones that served in the old times.

The busines of the *Bureau* is accomodated, the French having set it up backed by 2,000 foot & 600 horse & the Governor of Flanders disowning the proceeding.

M^r de Lyonne continues in a very weak condition & many doubt of his recovery, & as many will lament his losse as a very complaisant & civill person to strangers.

Notwithstanding the hopes given by the last ordinary, this day brings in the Venetians absolute denying the French any levyes in Dalmatia; methinks France being soe populous no nation should draine itselfe to send men into it. *Basta.*

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Sep. 5th, '71.

I have the favour of yours by the last, but my L^d Ambassador is not yett arrived. I believe the winds have been contrary. It seems, when I told you in my last of M^r de Lyonne's being in a desperate condicōn. that he was actually dead though not publicly knowne.² His son³ has the reversion of his secretaryship, but is thought too young for the ministry, which it's said is shouldered upon the Arch Bp of Tholouze, but I believe M^r Colbert will endeavor the getting both for his brother in England *moyenant* some sums. This night, after *media nox*, the King gives a great regal at Versailles to celebrate the honour of his birthday. The Court is much dissatisfyed with the Venetians for refusing the levyes they had at first granted for the King. Cap. Crow's⁴ busines has made a great noyse here, but nothing so much a talke as Blood's⁵ being forgiven. There is some body corresponds

¹ Sir Henry Jones, formerly lieutenant and captain in the Earl of Oxford's regiment of Horse Guards. He raised a regiment for the French king. Killed at the siege of Maestricht in 1673.

² He died on September 1.

³ Louis de Lionne, Marquis de Berny.

⁴ Thomas Crow, Captain of the 'Merlin,' arrested 'for failing to do his duty towards the Dutch men-of-war who refused to strike to the king's flag.' *S. P., Dom.* 1671, p. 433.

⁵ Thomas Blood, son of Colonel Thomas Blood, arrested on the charge of stealing the crown. Evelyn says of this: 'How he came to be pardoned . . . I

very punctually here & gives a strange discription of affaires in England; it might be found out at the Posthouse if a search were made. If you please to pay Mr Nott, hee will call upon you for the money & returne it to mee.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Sep. 5, '71.

My Lord Ambassador is not yett arrived, I believe because the winds have not be[e]n favorable. The greatest busines here, at present, is the settlement of the forreigne ministry, since Mons^r de Lyonne's death, into other hands. His son has the reversion, & notwithstanding that hee has been nursed up in the busines, it seems it is not thought fitt, as yet, that hee shall have the function. I hear that the Arch Bp of Thoulouze hath the charge, at present, of all forreigne affaires, but many believe, that *moyenant* a good sum, the place may bee bought for Ambassador Colbert, if the other two ministers doe not spoile the intrigue. Mr Colbert was sent by the King a little before Mr de Lyonne's death to speak with him about severall affaires, & in generall of all the negotiations now on foot; after which, hee putt a seal on all his papers. There are many reasons why the death of this Minister will putt the present intrigues to a little kind of confusion, no other having any share in them & the King having wholly relyed upon his conduct.¹

I hear that his M. Xtian Ma^{ty} has resolved to add to Marshall Crequy's army in Lorraine as many men as will make up seven thousand horse and thirteen thousand foot, upon the advice, sent by the s^d generall, that the Imp^l Troops were drawne up & marching along the Rhine. Everybody here talks of warre, but none that can say positively where. The busines of the *Bureau* in Flanders is accomodated. There are many that suspect an intrigue between the French & Dutch. If there be any it is very much dissembled, both parties pretending to annoy each other in all circumstances. It is said that France & Portugall is [*sic*] agreed to root out the Hollanders in the Indies, particularly at Cochin, but I doe not

never could come to understand.¹ He was pardoned on August 31, 1671 (see *S. P., Dom.*, 1671, p. 460).

¹ M. de Pomponne succeeded M. de Lyonne as Minister of Foreign Affairs (see p. 167).

hear of any considerable forces the French have that way. At last the marriage between Monsieur & the Princesse Palatin is said to be agreed on, & the Marshall du Plessis to goe the 15th currant, in order to the conducting her into France.

This night the King makes a great regal after midnight (because he may not eat flesh) in solemnity of his birthday.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Sep. 9, '71.

I told you that the Arch Bp of Thoulouze had the forreigne Ministry put into his hands, but now I must unsay it & assure you that the King has made choyce of M^r de Pompone, his present Amb^r in Sweden, as a person he thinks more capable of that charge, being of excellent dispatch & well versed in all affaires. A courier was sent to him with the compliment, & in the meantime, untill he shall have finished his embassy, his Ma^{ty} has put the management into M^r de Louvoy's hands, a *coup d'esprit* of M^r le Tellier, therby to bring his son¹ into the *conseil d'estat*. The C^r de Koningsmark has sent a Courier with excuses hither, that he cannot performe what he undertook, since none of the Princes will let him raise men in the Empire.

M^r Nott tells me [he] has waited upon you for M^r Dean's money,² but that you knew not the sum I laid out, which I repeat to you was thirty five crownes, or in livers, 104. It is no hard matter to calculate the sum & will be a kindnes the sooner it shall be returned.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Sep. 16, '71.

By the two papers inclosed, your Lop will see how the *demeslé* at Vienna is accomodated to this King's great satisfaccion, & how

¹ Louis François Le Tellier.

² Probably the son of Sir Anthony Deane, Charles II.'s shipwright at Portsmouth. This money was for Mr. Dean's outfit. In a letter dated June 21, 1671, Perwich says: 'I have bought M^r Dean a good substantiall suite that is decent & lasting, which with stockings, shooes, hat & garnitur cost me sixty-five livers. His going by the messenger will cost me twelve crownes, besides which I doe not reckon to you the expence I have been at here for his entertainment because it is considerable, hee having dined & lodged with me.' According to the *S. P., Dom.*, 1671, Sir Anthony Deane's son was in France at this time.

partial the Nuncios were in bringing it about.¹ Many believe that there is a great mistery in all that busines & that it was continued on purpose by both parties only to disguise the intelligence wherein it is thought they live.

Our letters, from Spain, say that the flota from the Indyes is safely arrived, laden with six millions of pieces of $\frac{8}{9}$ & one of merchandise.

The levies here goe on but slowly, & from abroad they will have but a lame account of those they desired to raise. It is said here that the Prince of Tuskany consented to them, provided they would take no married men, artisans or peasants.

Paris: Decemb 16th, '71.

Being arrived only since the last post, this will serve to pay you most humble acknowledgments for your kindnesse when I was in Eng^d, beseeching you that you will please to render mee happy in the continuance of it.²

My Lord of Sunderland³ went forward yesterday, as did also Mr Nott back for England, but his few hours stay here gave mee noe time to send anything by him.

By letters from Lyon, we hear of Mr de Lauzun's being arrived soe far & lodged in the same Chamber where Mr Fouquet did, on his way to Pignerol. It seems he has been soe ravingly melancholy upon the way as not to eat or speak; only once, at a dangerous passage, when he was desired to gett out of the Coach, he said he would not, since no danger could compare with that he had run of his Ma^{tie's} displeasure.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Decemb $\frac{9}{15}$, '71.

Since my coming hither, the greatest discourse has been of a manifesto, said to be penned by Mons^r Pelisson⁴ (the famous oratour), & to be suddainly published. Its contents are said to be consisting in severall neighbouring Princes' pretentions against the Dutch, as particularly the P^{cc} of Liege, the Bp. of Munster, &c^a. A few days

¹ See letter dated July 22, 1671.

² During October and November Perwich was evidently over in England (see *Montagu-Arlington Letters*, p. 505).

³ Robert Spencer, second Earl of Sunderland.

⁴ Paul Fontanier Pellisson, the French Academician.

will discover the businesse. In the mean time I hear that yesterday the Heer Grotius sent to demand an Audience, pretending that he had received a letter from the States Generall to the M. Xtian King, wherein they offer him satisfaction in whatever complaints his Ma^{ty} hath made against them, and that if the King would daigne to receive the letter, the Amb^r was ready to enter into negotiation; otherwise that he had orders to goe home again.

Mons^r de Louvoy goes hence on Munday towards Flanders, to make a round through all the garrisons there, & to returne hither before the King begins his journey into Champagne, which will bee about the 20th of January, by which time all the new levyes, & some other troops, are ordered to be there for a generall review.

The Dutch Amb^r¹ hath written out of England that ye King of England had satisfied him as to his adhering to the League with other circumstances of friendship, which gives occasion of much discourse here.²

A list of books is preparing to be sent y^r Lopp with the price.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Decemb 23th 71.

My last told you how the Dutch Ambassador had desired an Audience, which has been since named him to be on Sunday last, but the day come, hee was remitted to this day. What the result will bee many expect with impatience, since most believe it may not be too favorable for the Hollanders. However, hee is loaden with overtures, in order to the giving these people satisfaction. When the Courier, that came last night, shall returne, you may have a more particular account of all.

On Munday, my L^d Amb^r, accompanied by all the English

¹ Van Beuninghen had been sent over to England in April, when the Dutch discovered Louis's intention to go to Flanders. The Dutch feared a union between Charles and Louis and charged Van Beuninghen to demand (1) the admission of the Emperor and the other princes of Europe into the Triple Alliance, or a separate treaty to be made between England, Sweden, Holland, and the Princes of Europe, by which each one must help to defend the other, if necessary; (2) that the contest about Surinam should come to an end and an agreement [be] made which would fix for the future the relations of the English and Dutch companies of the 'Indes Orientales.' Charles had assured Colbert that the mission of Van Beuninghen would result in nothing and Louis was satisfied. (Mignet, vol. iii. p. 204.)

² In cipher, deciphered.

gentry in Towne, had audience of Monsieur & afterwards of Madam, to complim^t them on their marriage, as had also the other Ambassadors & Residents.¹

I cannot well tell when the K^e. sett^s out for Champagne, but most believe it may be the 15th of Jan.

M^r de Louvoy is said to be gone for Flanders, though once his journey was put off.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Decemb 24^e, '71.

All that offers at present worthy your Lopp's knowledge is that since my last, the King, att the Dutch Ambassadors request, appointed last Sunday for his Audience, that then hee remitted him till yesterday, & thence till his Ma^{tie}'s returne from Champagne. Thus your Lopp may perceive how ill a correspondence there is between them. Now many blame the Ambassadors for having declared his having a submissive letter from the States, when as their orders were, that in case hee was well assured of the French designs to attaque Holland, hee should in such case deliver the letter, which offers satisfaction in all the just causes of complaint his M. Xtian Ma^{ty} may have ag^t them, particularly notionating the late differences in point of Commerce. The Dutch having hitherto huffed very much, it does the more encourage these people when they find them trucking with overtures of satisfaction.

The King goes hence the 5th of Jan., but no ministers follow him, excepting the Marq^s of Louvoy. The hidden discourse is as if His Ma^{ty} intended imediately to take possession of Juliers upon agreement with the Duke of Nieuburg, which place will, in this case, bee able to intercept all Correspondence between Holland & Maestricht.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Decemb 26th, '71.

Since the dispatching away the last courier, little hath happened here.

The King has ordred 20 companies of the French guards to march this day towards Chaalons, & seven of the *Suisse* Companies goe hence to-morrow, His Ma^{ty} intending to follow them on the 5th of January. Some believe hee may go as far as Metz, whither

¹ See p. 167.

the Marshall Crequi is drawing his men, in order to the review to be made att Chaalons, after which, it is thought the King will [march] a body towards the Rhine.

I hear that an expresse is sent into Spaine, with orders to the Marq^s de Villards to informe the Queen of Spaine of the complaints this King hath against the Dutch, & to demand a positive answer whether shee be inclined to enter in a league with them, as hee is informed from the Hague shee is, & would assist the Hollanders, if they should bee attacqued. In which case, the French Ambassador is ordered to declare, that his most Xtian Ma^{ty} does withdraw his *parole donnée*, wherein hee engaged himselfe not to act against the Monarchy of Spaine during the King's minority.

It is said that his Ma^{ty} hath created a new charge in favor of Mons^r Colbert, entitled 'Director Generall of all Marine Affaires,' as it were, tutour to the C^t of Vermandois, Adm^l of France, which hee is to enjoy untill the young Prince comes of age.

M^r de Pomponne is expected here ¹ in a few days, & M^r Courtin has written to Court that his embassy into Sweden will bee needless, since the other is said to have concluded a Treaty of alliance between France & Sweden.²

It is thought the Dutch Ambassador, upon the late *marques de mespris*, may think of returning home.

The P^{ec} of Condé has sent one, du Verger, to make his owne equipage & provisions of forrage, &c. near the Rhine, the Prince being willing to be at the expence himselfe & not to make use of the King's.

Monsieur Gremonville hath sent a Courier by which hee advises ye King of Ffrance that the Emperour had sent for him & told him that hee did know that ye King of Ffrance designed to send an army to assist ye Elector of Cologne against ye City, that hee desired him to let ye King of Ffrance know that hee could not suffer any forreigne forces to come into ye Empire; upon which, I heare that ye King of Ffrance hath sent orders to Monsieur de Chamilly to block up Cologne, to prevent ye Emperour's forces, which are yet in Hungary. A few days will discover the truth.³

Since I wrote this, I hear the King has differred his journey till the 20th of Jan.

¹ From his Embassy in Sweden.

² See letter dated January 13, 167 $\frac{1}{2}$.

³ In cipher, deciphered.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Decemb 30th, '71.

The honour of your first, since I came hither, I received yesterday, for which I most humbly thank you. As to the edicts you mention, I am making a collection, & shall transmit them by the first opportunity, but those that are most materiall you shall have by the next ordinary. As I remember, I told you one particular at parting relating to the present *Quere* in yours, that since the Treaty of 1662¹ between the French & Dutch, the French began to raise the Impositions, as well on the latter as other forreigners, but that the Hollanders first began the blunt prohibition of French importations, (& incited the Governor of Flanders to doe the like). Whereupon, the King did resolve the like, & then the Northerne Company was established here. It is believed here, that notwithstanding the Emp^r's message hither, declaring hee could not suffer any forreigne troops to come into the Empire, either Cullen is allready besieged or will very suddainly bee soe, orders having been said to be sent hence to M^r de Chamilly to that purpose, & the Imp^l forces being now in Hungary. And I was told yesterday, that a certain sum of 60 th^d *louis d'or* had been carried on the other side of the Rhine & delivered to persons in disguise, which some conjecture to be Brunswickers.

The King's journey begins not on the 5th, as was said. The Dutch Amb^r told the Introducator, that if the King would not give him an Audience of business, hee desired to have one of *Congé*.

On Munday, the 29th, his Ma^{ty} entertained Madam & Monsieur at Versailles, at which time, it's said, M^r Colbert came in hast to tell him that the new raised German troops were disorderly & beat the French because their pay dislikes them.

We shall hear the same thing of the Irish Regiment very suddainly, since they are hardly used.

¹ In 1662 the Dutch had taken advantage of an embassy sent to congratulate the King of France on his marriage with the Infanta of Spain to conclude an alliance with the Dutch which would ensure them her support in the event of a rupture with England. The contracting parties were to assist each other in maintaining all their possessions, rights, and privileges, that of the Dutch fishing being expressly named, and in case of either being attacked the other was to declare war against the enemy before the end of four months. (See Davies, *Hist. of Holland*, vol. iii. p. 16.)

The letter, from the States to the King, is not so submissive as was said, but only imagining that his present discontent with them proceeds from choquings in point of Trade, that they were ready to reduce all things to the state they were at the Treaty of 1662.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Jan 2nd, 1672.

After the having wished your honour the succession of many prosperous New Years to attend your great worthiness & merit, I must beg your honour's excuse for not writing by the last post, there being then nothing of novelty extant. We expect every hour to hear of a battle, nay, the letters from Chalons mention that there has been one to great loss on both sides, but we must expect further confirmation.

M^r de Schomberg is gone for Pepignon to hinder the Spaniards from renewing the incursions they have lately [made], & the Count de Koningsmark's regiments marching to his assistance, he himself staying here, after all the discourse of his going to command in the Sweed's Army.

M^r de Valbel¹ is sailed with 8 men of war & many barks with provisions for the relief of Messina, which people have declared that, if they be not succoured before New Year's Day, they would be forced to make the best composition they could.

*To Sir Joseph Williamson.*²

Jan. 2, 167 $\frac{1}{2}$.

‘ Les lettres de Madrid portent que les grandz appretz de guerre, du Roy très Chrestien commencent à allarmer cette Cour et à la reveiller de l'espece d'assoupissement, où elle a esté jusqu'icy, que la Reine Catholique faict presentement tenir devant elle un nouveau conseil, qu'elle a estably pour les [sic] des Pays Bas, et que sa resolution touchant les Hollandois est de les secourir secrètement sans se declarer en leur faveur en cas de rupture avec la France, de peur d'attirer sur les Pays Bas de sa Maj^{te} Catholique les armes du Roy très Chrest, et afin aussy d'empescher autant que faire se pourra la ruine des affaires des ditz Hollandois, en leurs fournissant des

¹ Jean Baptiste, Chevalier de Valbelle.

² The first portion of this letter is missing.

munitions de guerre et de bouche, en licentiant des troupes pour les faire passer à leur service, en couppant les vivres aux troupes de sa Maj^{te} très Chrest, et enfin, en favorisant, autant qu'il sera possible, les ditz Hollandois, la conservation des Pays Bas de sa Maj^{te} Cth: estant regardé par le conseil d'Espagne comme inseparablem^t attaché a celle des Provinces Unies.

' Mons^r Grotius, Amb^r de Hollande, voyant que le Roy ne luy avoit pas donné Mercredi l'Audiance, qu'on luy avoit faict espérer, a renvoyé le courier, que Mess^{rs} les Estatz luy avoyent depesché, pour luy porter la lettre qu'ils ont escriitte au Roy, et il leurs a demandé, par cette voye, de nouveaux ordres, touchant ce qu'il avoit à faire, et pour scavoir s'il doit se retirer, n'augurant rien de bon pour leur estat du delay de cette Audiance sur le point du départ du Roy et de la marche des troupes.

' L'on a advis de la Haye, que le Prince d'Oranges est sur le point d'estre pourveu de la charge de Capitaine General des Provinces Unies.

' Le Regiment de Cavallerie de Piedmont de 2,000 chevaux, levés en ce pays pour le service du Roy, est arrivé à Bar sur Seine.

' L'on a nouvellem^t arresté à Paris, par ordre du Roy, le Marquis de Chandénier,¹ cy-devant Capita[i]ne des Gardes du Corps de sa Maj^{te}, lequel a esté conduit dans le chasteau de Loches, en Tourraine, pour n'avoir pas voulu demeurer en son exil de Bourges, surquoy il a dict qu'il estoit obligé à sa Majesté d'avoir pourveu à sa subsistance en le faisant mettre en prison, n'ayant pas de quoy subsister autrem^t.

' Mons^r de Turenne accompagne le Roy dans son voyage et partira deux jours devant pour aller à Metz. La plus part des Princes et grands Seigneurs de la Cour marchent aussi et partiront quelques jours avant sa Maj^{te}.

' L'on a receu de nouveaux advis de Cologne, qui portent que l'accommodem^t de cette ville avec son Archevesque,² que l'on croyoit rompu, s'est renoué et conclud à l'avantage de son Alt. Electorale, que la garnison Hollandoise en doit sortir, et que la ville demeurera neutre, en cas de rupture entre le dict Electeur et les Provinces Unies.'

¹ François de Rochechouart, Marquis de Chandénier, 1611-1696; disgraced in 1651.

² Maximilian Henry of Bavaria.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan 2^d, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.

The King's journey draws nigh, & many believe it may not end at the *Rendezvous*; that when he shall be there, the manifesto may be published; that Julier may be the first thing entred into. But many believe there is a private agreem^t with the Duke of Nieuburg, in order to the assisting him in his pretentions ag^t the Hollanders.

Their Amb^r here knows not how to proceed, & expects orders for his returne. The edicts I had chosen are not brought mee, soe that I am afraid they will not come time enough for this Post.

The *novellier*¹ desires me to expose his hand no more, for fear the letters be opened, there being a strict search after such game.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 13, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$, S.N.

Le Duc de Luxembourg a receu ordre avant hier, de Sa Ma^{te}, d'aller commander dix mil hommes à Cologne, et l'Electeur de ce nom, M^r l'Evesque de Munster, et le Duc Nieuburg, ont fait un accord, par lequel ils s'obligent au Roy très Xtien de tenir une armée de vingt mil hommes, dont une partie sera commandée par M. de Chamilly pour Cologne, celle de l'Evesque de Munster par M^r le Bret,² et celle de Nieubourg par M^r de Podovis. The agreem^t between France & Sweden is founded on the monthly sum of four hundred thous^d livers, or a hundred thirty od thous^d crownes, to be paid only from the time the King shall begin to make [use] of the Sweed's assistance.

It's believed the Queen of Spain will hardly ratify the league between the Dutch & ye Governor of Flanders, because she has promised France to make none with the Dutch within ye space of a year.

The Dutch Amb^r, it seems, when the King's answer was brought him to the States' letter, asked the Introducator for the copy also, as was usuall in the like case, but he, briskly replying that hee had none, the Amb^r told him hee could not transmit the letter without seeing the contents & therfore opened it in his presence, which is looked on here as a *coup de maistre*.

¹ Newsmonger.

² Alexandre le Bret, appointed lieutenant-genera in 1674.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

‘ ce 14^e Jan^{ier}, 1672.

L’on mande de Metz que l’on y a amassé, par ordre du Roy, ^m₈₀ septiers de farine, que l’on continue à y faire amas d’une très grande quantité de toutes sortes de munitions, et que l’on y attendoit M^r de Louvoy, qui devoit aussi aller à Sedan où il a donné un rendez-vous au S^r Jacquier, Commissaire des vivres, pour ordonner de leur employ, dont la plus grande partye doit estre envoyée à Nuits et autres places de l’Electorat de Cologne par dessus la Mazelle.¹

‘ L’on mande de Boon que les fortifications de Nuits s’avancent fort et sont déjà eslevées jusques au cordon et en estat de deffense, qu’il y a près de 100 pièces de Canon dans cette place et de la poudre et des bouletz pour tirer 1,500 coups de chacune, et que M^r de Louvoy, apres l’avoir visitté, estoit allé en la dicte ville de Boon, où il avoit conféré avec l’Electeur de Cologne et avoit aussi veu M^r l’Evesque de Munster avec lequel il avoit fait la debauche où mon dict S^r de Louvoy avoit enyvré tous les convi[v]es, sans en excepter le dict Evesque.

‘ Le Roy a resolu de faire encore 400 compagnies d’infanterie et six-vingt de cavallerie, desquelles on distribuera 200 d’infanterie et 60 de cavallerie, immediatem^t après le retour de M^r de Louvoy, et le reste six semaines après, Sa Maj^{te} ayant resolu d’augmenter ses troupes depuis 150 mille hommes jusques à 180 mille entre cy et l’esté prochain, et l’on tirera la plus part des officiers, deux nouvelles levées des compagnies des Gardes du Corps, Mousquetaires, Gend’armes, et Chevaux Légers de la garde et de la maison du Roy.

‘ Le Roy a déclaré, qu’il donneroit, durant la campagne prochaine, le commandem^t general de son armée navale sur l’océan au Comte d’Estrées, Vice Admiral de France, avec la mesme autorité de l’Admiral.

‘ Sa Maj^{te} doit tenir bientôt un grand conseil de marine, où les principaux officiers et anciennes capitains des vaisseaux de sa dicte Maj^{te} seront appelées, et dont il y a déjà une partye en cette ville, et entr’autres, le S^r Du Quesne,² lieutenant generall, et le S^r des Rabiniers,³ chef d’escadre.

¹ Moselle.

² Abraham du Quesne, named the ‘ Grand du Quesne.’

³ M. des Rabesnières de Treillebois de la Tremblade.

‘ L’on mande de Marseille, qu’il est arrivé à la Ciudad,¹ ville de Provence, 400 *bona voglia*, venant de Venize, que cette republique a accordés à sa Maj^{te} pour servir sur ses gallères, et que le dernier du passé la compagnie des Gardes de la Marine, commandé par le S^r de Cujac, fut cassée, en execution des ordres qui en avoyent esté envoyés par sa Maj^{te}.

‘ Et de Thoulon, qu’il y estoit arrivé un vaisseau, monté de 27 esclaves Chrestiens, lesquelz se sont emparés de ce vaisseau, aux costes de Barbarie et se sont sauvés après avoir jetté dans la mer les Turcs, qui estoient dedans, et essuyé pluzieurs coups de canon, qui leur furent tirés de terre : que l’on a appris que les Algerins, après avoir tué leur Roy, ont couronné, en la mesme qualité, un Renegat hollandois, nommé Trie, et que le S^r de Previlly, capitaine de vaisseau du Roy, n’estoit party de Malthe que le 27^e de Novemb^r, pour aller a Constantinople porter le S^r d’Arnieu, envoyé par sa Maj^{te} à la Porte pour porter des lettres au Grand Seigneur et au Per² Vizir, et des ordres au S^r de Nointel,³ son Amb^r, et que les Corsaires de Malthe estoient presentem^t fortz de 30 vaisseau[x] qui crusoient les mers et avoyent nouvellem^t pris de leurs courses deux vaisseaux des corsaires de Barbarie, qui n’ozent tenir devant eux.

‘ L’on escrit encore de Thoulon, qu’il y est arrivé un des vaisseaux de guerre du Roy distaché de l’Escadre du S^r d’Almeras, qui l’a envoyé avec 4 flustes pour y charger des vivres et les apporter à sa dicte escadre, qui est composé de 12 vaisseaux de guerre, avec laquelle il a ordre de tenir les corsaires de Thunis assiegés dans le[s] ports, jusqu’à la fin du mois de Mars prochain ; qu’il est presentem^t devant le fort de la goulette, et qu’il a pris nouvellem^t un grand vaisseau de Thunis chargé de bois de galba ; que le Chev^r de Tourville,⁴ capitaine de la mesme escadre, en a pris un autre de la dicte ville de Thunis, qu’il a rencontré en croisant sur les costes de Barbarie, et que le dict S^r d’Almeras a longtemps donné la chasse a sept vaisseaux de Tripoli, mais qu’il ne les a pû joindre.

‘ Les lettres de Vienne portent que l’on y a eu advis que le Bacha⁵ de Varadin, s’estant remis en campagne et ayant faict rencontre d’un des capitaines de cavallerie de l’Empereur avec deux officiers et 12 cavaliers de sa compagnie, il les avoyt faits prison-

¹ La Ciotat.

² Premier.

³ Charles Ollier, Marquis de Nointel, French Ambassador in Constantinople.

⁴ Anne Hilarion de Cotentin, Comte de Tourville, Vice-Admiral of France.

⁵ I.e. Pascha.

niers et ammenés avec luy, et a fait scavoir qu'il n'estoit pas resolu de les rendre que l'Empereur ne luy eust fait raison des nouvelles courses qu'il dict que les Hussartz ont faitz sur les terres du grand Seigneur.

'L'on mande de Cologne, que la paix de cette ville avec l'Electeur de ce nom ayant esté conclue, tant de la part de son Altesse Electorale que des Magistratz de la dicte ville, ils avoyent, en execution du dict traicté, congedié le regiment du Colonel Bampfild¹ que les Hollandois y entretenoyent, ainsy que les autres troupes qu'ilz avoyent nouvellem^t receües de leur part pour faire place a celles du cercle de Wesphalie, et avoyent contermendé deux autres regimentz, que les estats des Provinces Unies envoyoient encore à leur secours.

'Le Roy a envoyé a Mr Grotius, Amb^r d'Hollande, une lettre qu'il a escritte à ses maistres en reponse de la leur, et le luy a fait donner toute ouverte, afin qu'il soit informé de son contenu, qui est encore plus fier que ce que sa Maj^{te} luy a respondu de vive voix.

'Les trois premièr[e]s compagnies du Regiment des Gardes Suisses, qui ont esté rappelées, arrivèrent dimanche à Paris, et les Mousquetaires et Gardes du Corps du Roy ont continué leur marche vers Metz, ainsy que 30 compagnies d'Infanterie, 12 de Chevaux Légers, et 3 de Dragons, à dessein à ce que l'on croid de passer dans l'Electorat de Cologne.

'Le Duc de Luxembourg partyt hier, à midi, pour Metz à dessein de passer de là auprès de l'Electeur de Cologne pour commander ses troupes en qualité de Lieutenant General. Le Marquis de Genlis² y va aussi pour servir de Mareschal de Camp, et le Comte de Saut³ est party pour se rendre à son regiment, qui est dans les trois Eveschés.

'L'on a advis de Metz, que les Mousquetaires du Roy y estant arrivés des premiers, y ont attendu les 300 gardes du corps du Roy qui y arrivèrent le 6^e, et qu'ilz en partirent tous ensemble avec pluzieurs compagnies de cavallerie, le tout faisant le nombre de 1,500 chevaux, le 9^e du courant, pour vers l'Electorat de Cologne

¹ Colonel Joseph Bampfild, at one time a Royalist agent, then spy to Cromwell. After the Restoration he entered the service of Holland. (See *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; and Ludlow's *Memoirs*, ii. 429).

² René Brulart, Marquis de Genlis.

³ François Emmanuel de Blanchefort de Créquy, Comte de Sault, later Duc de Lesdiguières.

escortés de l'infanterie que l'on y faict marcher, d'où on faict espérer aux ditz Gardes du Roy, à ce qu'ilz mandent, d'estre de retour en leurs quartiers dans un mois.

' L'on adjouste que M^r de Louvoy a faict un nouveau traicté avec l'Electeur de Cologne et l'Evesque de Munster, et que l'Electeur de Trèves y entre pour convenir des conditions du passage qu'il doit accorder aux troupes du Roy.

' Le Duc d'Estrées est party pour son Ambassade de Rome, et va s'embarquer à Marseille, n'ayant pas voulu passer en Savoye pour éviter la contestation pour la droicte avec le Duc de ce nom, qui ne veut pas la ceder chez luy aux Ambassade^{rs} Ex^{res} de France, qui la prétendent.

' Le Duc de Thouars,¹ fils du Prince de Tarente, espouze Mad^{lle} de Crequi² fille unique et herétière du duc de ce nom.

' M^r de Pomponne est venu de Munster par la route d'Anvers sans passer par Hollande, et on l'attend aujourd'huy.'

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 16, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Yesterday came S^r Martin Wescomb³ hither on his way towards Madrid. The same day I also received a letter from our correspondent at Marseilles, dated the 6th current, with the news of S^r Edward Spragg's having concluded a very honourable & advantageous peace with the Algerines. The particulars hee knew not, but in generall that all Xtian slaves should bee set at liberty without redemption, that a considerable sum of money should be paid us by way of satisfaction for former demands, but the space of three years' time allotted for the performance; and that 48 hours was limited for the cessation of hostility, in which time Capt. Beach met with two of their men of warre, who, after a sharp fight, escaped him, but with much damage, being shatter'd in the fight.

M^r Pomponne is come home, & M^r Bonneuil⁴ has been at Brussels, where his stay was but short & his busines thought to bee to demand a passage for some troops into the Pays de Juliers.

¹ Charles, Duc de La Trémouille and de Thouars.

² Madeleine de Créquy.

³ Consul at Cadiz.

⁴ Nicolas Auguste de Harlay, seigneur de Bonneuil.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 20, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Wee have news that the Mareschal de Crequi is marched from Tianville,¹ in Luxembourg, along the Moesel, on one side of Treves, at the head of *Mousquetaires du Roy*, the *Gen d'Armes*, *Chevaux Légers*, & other troops. M^r du Louvoy was to see them goe away & sent the Lieutenant *du Roy* at Theonville prisoner hither for having refused to obey M^r de Crequy's order & let the troops come into the towne, whereuppon they forced the gates & gott in.

We hear the Dutch have two camps *volant* near the Rhine. They have sent hither S^r George Downing's² Mem^l which hee gave in to the States about saluting his Matie's flagg, which it seems they have printed at the Hague. One circumstance came along with it, that it was thought the States would not vouchsafe to answer it.

The discourse is much here that the C^t de Montereï's party at Madrid, in the Junta, has prevayled to have orders sent him to assist the Hollanders, in case they bee attacked, which orders are said to be intercepted.

The King has thoughts of being at Metz in time of action with Amb^{rs} & Ministers may follow him.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

' ce 21^e Jan^{er}, 1672.

' L'on escrit de La Haye, que les conditions avec les quelles Mess^{rs} les Estatz sont dans le dessein d'establi le Prince d'Oranges en la qualité de Capitaine General de leur Estat, sont qu'il aura toujours auprès de luy le Comte Guillaume de Nassau,³ son parent, en qualité de directeur, avec six Conseillers d'Estat, tirés du corps des Estatz, qui le suivront à l'armée, et sans la participation des quelz, il ne pourra rien resoudre; que le dict Prince d'Oranges aura un regiment des gardes et les mesmes apointemens que ses predecesseurs, mais que la charge qu'ilz possedoyent de Gouverneur de l'Estat demeurera supprimée. Ces lettres adjoustent, que ces habitans de la campagne des Provinces Unies, commencent à faire

¹ Thionville.

² English Minister at the Hague.

³ The son of Lewis, Lord of Lecke, and Elizabeth, Countess of Horn, 1632-1705. Related to William, Prince of Orange, in so far as they were both descended from William, Count of Nassau, who died in 1584.

transporter dans les villes ce qu'ilz ont de meilleur, dans l'attente où ilz sont d'une guerre prochaine.

' Le Marquis de Seignelay, Secrétaire d'Estat de la Marine, doit aller à Brest pour y faire équiper l'armée navale du Roy, et il a esté résolu de destacher des escadres pour envoyer dans les Indes Orientales et Occidentales, et par tous les lieux où les Hollandois trafiquent, à dessein d'y ruiner leur commerce, en y enlevant leurs vaisseaux marchands.

' Par le traité, conclud avec l'Electeur de Trèves, il a esté convenu qu'il observeroit exactement la neutralité en laquelle il s'est engagé, et donneroit passage libres à toutes les troupes de sa Maj^{te} qu'elle voudroit faire passer par son Estat, à condition qu'elles n'y feroient aucun désordre et payeroient les vivres quelles y prendroient, ce qui luy a esté promis, et ce que M^r de Louvoy faict executer ponctuellement, ayant faict deffendre, sur paine [peine] de la vie, aux soldatz des troupes de sa Ma^{te}, qui passent dans les terres du dict Electeur, de rien prendre de ses sujets sans payer, et afin de faire mieux observer cet ordre et une exacte discipline aux dites troupes, il les faict marcher en corps et camper durant leur marche, et a separé en trois brigades douze mille hommes, qui sont commandés, pour aller dans l'Electorat de Cologne, se mettre en garnison dans 4 places de l'Electeur de ce nom, scavoir Boon, Nultz, Keiserswert¹ et Lin,² et ces trois brigades partent de Metz quelques jours les unes après les autres, afin de trouver des vivres sur leur route plus commodement.

' L'on a advis. que l'on est convenu avec M^r l'Electeur de Cologne que ces troupes françoises luy prêteront serment de fidelité en entrant dans ses places, que M^r de Louvoy estoit venu à Metz pour en faire partir les dictes troupes et en estoit reparty pour les conduire.

' On mande de Liège qu'on y faict de grands magasins de bledz³ pour les troupes du Roy, et que les marchands liégeois en ayant asepté quantité à Mastrick⁴ qu'ils y avoient faict venir du Pays de Juilliers pour fournir ces magasins, les magistratz de la dicte ville, ayant eu advis que c'estoit à dessein de les vendre aux François, avoient d'abord faict difficulté de les laisser sortir de leur ville, mais qu'ilz s'y estoient enfin résolus, sur l'offre que ces marchandz leurs firent, de leurs laisser ces bledz pour le mesme prix que l'on leurs en donne à Liège.

¹ Kaiserswerth.

² Lintz.

³ I.e. blés.

⁴ Maestricht.

‘ Il y a quelques jours que Mons^r le Prince, parlant au Roy des despenses qu’il faisoit pour son équipage de guerre, il dist a sa Maj^{te} que Mons^r [le] Duc, son filz, estoit mauvais mesnager, et se ruinoit par les despenses qu’il faisoit pour le sien, et qu’il auroit bien besoing de quelque secours pour l’achever; surquoy sa Maj^{te} demanda à mon dict Sieur le Prince combien il faudroit encore d’argent à Mons^r le Duc pour l’achever; à quoy ce prince répondit qu’il auroit besoing encore de 30 ou 40 mille francs, et le mesme soir, le Roy fist expédier un brevet d’une nouvelle pension de 60 mille livres, dont sa Maj^{te} fist present à Mons^r le Duc sans prejudice de ses autres pensions, ny de celles de Mons^r son père. Sa Ma^{te} ayant sceu que le Mareschal de Bellefontz avoit resolu de vendre sa charge de Premier Maistre d’Hostel pour payer ses debtes, qui se montent à 100 mille escus, sa dicte Maj^{te} luy a ordonné de la garder, et luy a faict present de 200 mille francs pour donner à ses créanciers.

‘ Dimanche, Mons^r de Pompone alla avec Mons^r Colbert en la maison de feu Mons^r de Lionne, où ilz ont levé le scellé que Mons^r Colbert avoit mis sur les papiers et mémoires d’estat du deffunct, et travaillèrent ensemble à en faire l’inventaire ensuite duquel ilz furent remis entre les mains de M^r de Pompone, qui a presté serment de fidelité au Roy, est entré au conseil de sa Majesté et dans toutes les fonctions de sa charge de Secretaire d’Estat.

‘ L’instruction que le Duc de Luxembourg a receuë du Roy en partant pour l’Electorat de Cologne, est qu’il commandera, en qualité de Lieutenant General, toutes les troupes que sa Maj^{te} envoie dans le dict Electorat ainsy que celles de l’Electorat pour le service de ce Prince, et mesme celles de l’Evesque de Munster, qui s’y doivent joindre.

‘ L’on mande de Metz que les compagnies du Regiment des Gardes y arrivèrent le 12^e et devoient continuer leur route vers Cologne lorsque d’autres troupes, que l’on attendoit, les auroient jointes, et que M^r de Louvoy n’avoit esté que deux jours à Metz et estoit retourné dans l’Electorat de Cologne.

‘ Le S^r de S^t Poiange, Premier Commis de M^r de Louvoy, escrit de la dicte ville de Metz, qu’il y est demeuré pour en faire partir le reste des troupes, après quoy il ira rejoindre M^r de Louvoy à Nuitz, d’où mon dict S^r de Louvoy partira pour revenir en France par les Ardennes, lorsque le dict S^r de S^t Poiange y sera arrivé, lequel demeurera à Nuitz jusqu’au 10^e du prochain, pour y

faire l'inventaire des magazins, après quoy il s'en reviendra en France.

'L'on escrit de Theonville, du 14^e du courant, qu'il y avoit passé 2,000 chevaux des troupes du Roy allant dans l'Electorat de Cologne, que l'on y attendoit 2,000 Suisses, les Regimentz de Piedmont et de la Reine, et le Regiment des Gardes qui devoient prendre la mesme route, et que Mr de Louvoy y avoit repassé retournant à Nuitz; et de Treves, que mon dict S^r de Louvoy y a vieu[vu] l'Electeur de ce nom, qui luy a offert de luy donner la droicte chez luy, ce que ce Ministre n'a pas voulu accepter, et qu'il a réglé, avec le dict Electeur, les estapes des troupes de sa Majesté, qui doibvent passer sur les terres de son Electorat.

'Mr le Marquis de Seignelay partit Mardi à dix heures du matin, en poste. L'on assure qu'il a ordre du Roy de passer en Angleterre.

'Le Roy est à Versailles, où il a resolu de passer 15 jours. Monsieur et Madame arrivèrent Mardi au soir à Paris, Me[r]credi Monsieur alla au Val de Grâce assister à un service qui s'y faict tous les ans pour la feu Reine; aujourd'huy Monsieur donne le bal et collation au Palais Royal.

'La Princesse Palatine a esté blessée du dessus de sa chaise qui se lève qu'un de ses porteurs luy a laissé tomber sur la teste, dont elle s'est mise au lit.'

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

'ce 28 Jan., 1672.

'L'on mande d'Aire, en Artois, que le go[u]verneur de cette place espagnolle y arrivoit de Bruxells, d'où il avoit apporté un ordre du Comte de Monterey de faire razer et demolir tous les fauxbourgs de la dicte place, en consequence du quel ordre, tous les habitants de ces fauxbourgs commençoient à se retirer et a transporter leurs meubles dans la ville. L'on adjouste que ce gouverneur a dict, que l'on avoyt mis en deliberation dans le conseil du dict Comte de Monterey de razer les fortifications de pluzieurs places des Pays Bas, afin de n'estre point obligé d'y tenir des garnisons, qui affoiblissent les troupes d'Espagne, et que l'on y deliberoit aussy sur la deffense propozée des vins de France dans les provinces de l'obéissance de sa Maj^{te} Cath^{que} à l'exemple des Provinces Unies. lesquelz preparatifs semblent tesmoigner que les Espagnolz se disposent à la guerre contre la France.

‘L’on escrit de Dunckerque, que douze armateurs françois y ont déjà reçu des commissions du Roy pour équiper des vaisseaux en guerre, et faire des courses contres les ennemys de l’Estat, lesquels, à ce que portent leurs commissions, leurs seront designés par le S^r d’Estrades, Go[u]verneur de cette place avant qu’ilz en partent. L’on a advis de Saumur que le S^r de Montuergue,¹ cy-devant Vice Roy pour la compagnie des Indes Orientales de France à Madagascare, et qui avoit esté transféré du port Louis dans le Chasteau de Saumur, y est mort presque subitement, n’ayant pas reçu ses sacrementz.

‘M^r le Chancelier estant tombé malade à l’extrémité, et ayant perdu la parole, le Duc de Coislin,² l’Evesque D’Orleans³ et le Marquis de Rochefort, ses heritiers, allèrent Lundy remettre les Sceaux entre les mains du Roy, afin que sa Majesté en put disposer en faveur de quelque autre ; le Roy les receut et leurs dist qu’il les garderoit jusqu’à ce qu’il fust mort ou guery.

‘La plus commune opinion est, que le Roy ne fera point de nouveau Chancelier, et donnera à M^r le Tellier la commission de Garde des Sceaux ; d’autres croient que le Roy les pourra donner au Mareschal de Villeroi,⁴ en consideration de ce qu’il a esté son Gouverneur et est un de ses plus anciens Conseillers d’Estat, et chef de son Conseil des Finances. Cette opinion est en partye fondée sur ce que le Roy s’est informé, s’il y avoit pluzieurs exemples dans l’histoire de France que les Roys ayent donné les Sceaux a des gentz d’espée, sur quoy l’on en a trouvé 13 faisant profession des armes, dont le dernier a esté le Conestable de Luines, qui a esté quelques temps Garde des Sceaux. Le Marquis de Lionne, filz aîné de feu M^r de Lionne, estant à Versailles, et sortant le soir de ches le Roy par la porte d’un balcon dont l’appuy n’estoit pas encore fait, et croyant sortir par une porte ordinaire, s’est laissé tomber du premier estage dans la cour, et a tombé sur un corporal du Regiment des Gardes qui estoit en bas, à qui il a cassé une espaule, ce qui a un peu diminué la grandeur de sa cheute, dont il est cependant fort blessé à la teste, où la blessure est si dangereuse, que l’on parle de le trépaner ; et l’Abbé de Lionne,⁵ son frère, a

¹ See pp. 118 and 159.

² Armand de Cambout, Duc de Coislin (1635-1702).

³ Pierre de Cambout de Coislin (1636-1706).

⁴ See p. 33, n. 2. He was Governor to Louis in 1646.

⁵ Jules Paul, Abbé de Marmoutiers, second son of Hugues de Lionne.

esté presque au mesme temps blessé au visage par des éclatz d'une vitre de son carrosse, qui s'est brisée en versant.

'Le Duc de Vantadour,¹ estant allé en masque à la suite de Monsieur chez le Roy Cazimir de Pologne, et y estant demeuré après que Monsieur fut party, le Marq^s de Tavannes² vint l'aborder, et voulut luy arracher son masque, disant qu'il le connoissoit; surquoy ce Duc luy donna un soufflet, après quoy, ce Marquis, qui n'estoit pas masqué, luy donna pluzieurs coups de pied et furent ensuite separés; depuis, Monsieur le Prince les a accomodés, et les a faict embrasser, avec promesse, de part et d'autre, d'oublier le passé.

'Les Archevesques de Rheims et de Paris s'estant broüillés sur ce que le dernier a voulu empescher le premier d'officier aux Jesuittes ainsy que pluzieurs autres prélatz en la cérémonie de la canonisation de St François de Borgia,³ par ce qu'il ne luy en avoit pas demandé permission, ce qu'il pretend luy estre deub dans son diocesse, le Roy les a accordés et a ordonné que Monsieur l'Archevesque de Rheims officieroit et qu'il en feroit auparavant demander l'agreement à l'Archevesque de Paris.⁴

'Le Roy a resolu de faire cesser toutes sortes de bastiments et mesme ceux du Louvre durant cette année à la reserve de ceux de Versailles, pour en employer le fondz aux despenses de la guerre.

'Le Comte de Molina, Ambassadeur d'Espagne en France, est arrivé depuis quelques jours à Paris, venant d'Angleterre, où il estoit en la mesme qualité, et l'on a advis de Beauvais, que lors qu'il y a passé les tambours du Regiment d'Alsace, qui y est en garnison, estant allés le saluer d'une chamade, ilz ont esté arrestés prisonniers, pour l'avoir faict sans ordre de leurs officiers.

'L'on mande de Bayonne, qu'un courier extraord^e, venant d'Espagne, avoyt esté tué avec son postillon en Biscaye près de la dicté ville de Bayonne. Ayant voulu resister à quelques cavaliers qui l'ont attaqué, l'un desquelz a esté tué par ce courier, qui a esté volé par les autres, qui se sont sauvés.

'L'on a appris par la voye d'un courier extraordinaire, depesché par l'Evesque de Laon pour ses affaires, que le Cardinal Borromes⁵ est mort, et Messieurs de Vandosme ont escrit de la ville d'Ast,⁶

¹ Gaston Jean Baptiste de Lévis, Duc de Ventadour.

² Charles Marie de Saulx, Marquis de Tavannes.

³ The third General of the Order of the Jesuits, born in 1510 and died in 1572.

⁴ François de Harlay de Champvallon.

⁵ Gilberto Borromeo.

⁶ Aoust.

dans l'estat du Duc de Savoye, par la voye de ce courrier, qu'ilz retournoyent incessamm^t à Paris, où l'on les attend aux premiers jours.

'Le Roy partira de Versailles Lundy, premier jour de Fevrier, pour retourner demeurer à St Germain et y faire ses dévotions le lendemain, jour de la Vierge.¹

'Les Sceaux, ayant esté remis, comme nous l'avons dict, entre les mains du Roy, sa Maj^{te} a resolu de faire sceller en sa présence, et pour cet effect, a faict advertir les officiers de la Chancellerie, qui y doibvent assister de se trouver aujourd'huy à Versaille, où sa Maj^{te} fera tenir le Sceau devant elle, en attendant qu'elle ayt pourveu a cette charge.

'L'on a appris que Monsieur de Louvoy est party de l'Electorat de Cologne pour revenir en relais, et l'on attend demain au soir à Paris.

'L'on mande de l'Electorat de Cologne que les troupes du Roy, qui y sont arrivées, ont presté serment de fidelité à l'Electeur, et de Metz que le troisieme destachement de 4,000 hommes en partit le 18^e du courant, pour aller joindre les autres troupes dans le dict Electorat de Cologne.'

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

'Ce 4^e Fevrier, 1672.

'L'on mande de Toulon, q[u']un des vaisseaux du Roy, commandé par le Chevalier de Tourville, qui, au retour de l'escadre du Sieur d'Almeras, en avoyt esté dispersé par la tempeste, et dont on n'avoit eu aucunes nouvelles depuis qu'elle est arrivéé à Toulon, y est venu a bon port, que l'on en faict partir deux vaisseaux pour en aller relever trois autres, qui sont demeurés devant Porto Farino, pour empescher les Corsaires de Tunis d'en sortir, ny d'y entrer, durant l'hiver, et que le Roy ne tiendra cette année que 13 vaisseaux dans la mer Mediterranée où le Sieur de Martel commandera en sa qualité de Lieutenant General, et que le surplus des vaisseaux du Roy, qui sont en cette mer, passeront dans l'océan pour se venir joindre à l'armée navale de sa Maj^{te}, commandée par le Comte d'Estrées, qui doit estre de 34 grandz vaisseaux et de pluzieurs moindres, sans compter ceux que l'on a desseïn d'envoyer aux Isles de l'Amerique et aux Indes Orientales.

¹ *I.e.* the Feast of the Purification.

‘ L’on mande encore de la dicte ville de Toulon. que l’on y avoit, par ordre du Roy, congédié 1,200 ouvriers de ceux qui travailloyent à la construction des vaisseaux neufs que sa Majesté y faisoit bastir, qu’il n’en restoit plus que 4 ou 500 dans le parc où ils travailloyent, et qu’on estoit sur le point de les congédier tous et de fermer ce port jusqu’à un autre temps, sa Maj^{te} voulant employer ailleurs les sommes qui y estoient destinées, et se trouvant présentement un nombre suffisant de vaisseaux.

‘ L’on escrit de la Haye, les actions ou portions des intéressés en la Compagnie des Indes Orientales, establee en ce pays, diminuent notablement de prix depuis les dispositions que l’on y void à une prochaine guerre contre la France, en sorte que les partz en la dicte Compagnie qui valoyent 6,000 livres au commencement de l’année passée, ne se peuvent plus vendre qu’à raison de 4,000 livres. L’on adjouste qu’il y a une banque où l’on reçoit présentement à douze pour cent d’interest l’argent de ceux qui y veulent constituer des pensions à vie, et que l’on s’occupe, en ce pays, à chercher divers moyens d’avoir de l’argent comptant pour subvenir aux nécessités urgentes de cet estat, où il y a grande consternation parmy les negotians.

‘ L’on a adverty, par ordre du Roy, tous les principaux marchandz de Paris qu’ilz ayent à retirer les effectz qu’ils peuvent avoir entre les mains des marchandz Hollandois, parce que sa Majesté a resolu de declarer la guerre conjointement avec le Roy de la Grande Bretagne aux Estats Generaux des Provinces Unies.

‘ Monsieur de Louvoy estant de retour de l’Electorat de Cologne il va travailler à expedier les nouvelles commissions, dont on a parlé pour la levée de 20 mille fantassins et de 6,000 chevaux, à dessein d’en distribuer une partye au 15^e du courant, et le reste vers la fin de Mars.

‘ L’on a advis qu’une partye des troupes de France, parties de Metz, sont allées dans le pays de Juilliers prendre leurs quartiers aux environs de Duren. Après que le Chancelier de France fut mort, le Lieutenant Civil de Paris¹ alla ches luy mettre le scellé sur ses meubles pour estre ensuite distribués à ses heritières, suivant les formalités de la Justice. L’on assure qu’il n’est pas mort si riche que l’on le croyoit, et qu’il n’a laissé qu’environ 80 mille livres de rente en fondz de terre, cent mille escus d’argent comptant, dont il a distribué une partye à ses domestiques et aux églises de Paris,

¹ The *lieutenant civil* of the Châtelet (prison) of Paris.

pour y faire dire des messes, sans compter son hostel ny ses meubles.

‘ L’on travaille aux préparatifs d’une grande pompe funèbre que l’on doit faire à son corps dans l’église de sa paroisse, en laquelle 4 Prezidans au mortier porteront les quatre coings du poesle; toutes les cours souverains y assisteront, et luy rendront, comme au chef de la justice, des honneurs qu’ilz ne rendent qu’aux Roys, et ensuite de cette cérémonie son corps sera porté à Pontoise, son cœur a Nazaret, et ses entrailles en l’église de S^t André des Arcs, dans la chapelle de ses ancestres.

‘ L’on a propose, dans le conseil du Roy, de démembrer la charge de Garde des Sceaux, en nommant quatre Maistres des Requestes pour sceller les arrests du conseil privé, et donnant un grand Sceau à chaque Secrétaire d’Estat pour sceller les expéditions qui dependent de leurs charges, mais l’on ne scayt pas encore qu’il [sic] est le sentiment du Roy là-dessus. L’on croit que sa Majesté fera tenir le Sceau devant elle Samedi, si elle n’a pourveu à cette charge avant ce jour-là, et elle n’a poinct faict sceller à Versailles, comme le bruit en avoyt couru sur certains billetz que l’on avoyt faict imprimer, qui donnoyent ce faux advis à tous les officiers de Sceau, ce que le Roy a trouvé mauvais et a faict faire reprimande à des advocats du conseil, qui l’avoyent fait sans ordre.

‘ Lundy le Roy partit de Versailles pour retourner à S^t Germain.

‘ M^r de Louvoy, depuis son retour, a pris scéance dans le conseil du Roy, en qualité de Ministre d’Estat, quoy qu’il ayt quitté la direction des affaires estrangers, en vertu de laquelle le Roy l’avoyt faict asseoir dans le dict conseil où il n’assistoit auparavant que debout, sa Majesté ayant bien voulu, pour reconnoistre ses services, l’honorer de tiltre.

‘ Le Roy a donné une charge de Conseiller d’Estat au S^r de la Galissonnière,¹ Maistre des Requestes, et Intendant de la Haute Normandie.

‘ Le Comte de Chomberg² faict dessein de repasser bientost en Portugal.

‘ Les dernières lettres de Rome portent que l’Evesque de Laon estant en conférence avec le Cardinal Altieri, ce Cardinal luy a dict qu’il avoit advis du départ du Duc d’Estrées, son frère, pour l’ambassade de Rome, et qu’il se dispoisoit à le faire recevoir avec

¹ Jacques Barrin, Sieur de la Galissonnière.

² Schomberg.

tous les honneurs deubz à son caractère, moyenant quoy, il esperoit que sa Majesté très Chrest: receveroit aussy le Nonce que sa S^{te}¹ luy vouloit envoyer, à quoy cet Evesque luy repartit, qu'il croyoit que c'estoit l'intention de sa dicte Majesté.

'Les dernières lettres de l'Electorat de Cologne portent que les troupes de France y estant arrivées, l'Electeur alla les recevoir à six lieues de Boon, et les mit en bataille, au nombre de 5,000 fantassins et de 3,000 chevaux qui luy prestèrent serment de fidelité pour autant de temps qu'ils resteroient dans son Estat ; que M^r de Louvoy estoit présent à ce serment, en suite de quoy il partit pour France, et que les Hollandois ont un corps de 15 mille hommes, dispersés dans trois places voisines de l'Electorat de Cologne, pretz à secourir la première qui sera attaqué. Madame la Princesse de Conty² est morte ce matin à 4 heures.'

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Feb. 6th, 1672, S.N.

Since my last, I hear that the following establishment is resolved on in case a warre break out.

Mons^r le Duc de Luxembourg shall command the troops that the King's allies doe sett on foot for his service.

The Prince of Condé to command a royall Army.

The King to bee at the head of another on the frontiers of Luxembourg.

The Marshall d'Humiers shall command all the great garrisons of conquest townes.

And Monsieur is to goe into Catalonia in case the Spaniards draw the warre on themselves, & under him the Marshalls de Bellefons & Crequi.

As to the Marine, it is resolved that thirteen men of warre shall bee in the Mediterranean, & that M^r le Martel shall command them as Lieutenant General ; that the C^t d'Estrées shall command a fleet of 34 great ships in the Ocean, besides others that are designed to both the Indies.

It is said that the Hollanders, to engage the Spaniards to their party, have promised not to make any peace with France untill all the conquests of 1667 bee restored to Spaine, but this Article is

¹ i.e. Sainteté.

² Anne Marie Martinozzi, widow of Armand de Bourbon, Prince de Conti.

more a *Guasconade* than anything practicable, as cases stand. In the meantime, the Spaniards prepare for a warre, making great levyes & giving out that they fear nothing towards Catalognia, that they received with great joy the Treaty concluded at the Hague by Don Emanuel de Lira,¹ and that the Queen intends not to give any answer to Mons^r de Villar's propositions at Madrid, particularly as to her assisting the Hollanders, the Spaniards desiring that hee should guesse at their intention rather than declare them themselves.

The Emperor is tardy in his resolutions, hee apprehending some troubles from the Turks or the rebels in Hungary, & all that hee can, it's thought, will bee the selling some forces to the Spaniards & Dutch, especially those the Elector of Brandenburg shall send his Imp^l Ma^{ty}.

It is believed that Mr de Molina will bee here, only *incognito*, because hee makes noe great hast for his equipage, & being resolved first to see the result of matters now in agitation.

Two days since the Princesse de Conti dyed here, much regretted for her signall vertue & piety. Madam has been indisposed, but would not bee blooded, because the Prince her father² gave her a caution of the French Physicians.

Mr de Louvoy is returned & in greater vogue than ever. The seals will now, they say, bee given in commission to four *Maistres de Requestes*.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

'ce 11^e Feb. 1672.

' L'on escrit de Madrid que le Marquis de Villardz, Ambassadeur de France, a declaré à la Reine d'Espagne, suivant l'ordre qu'il en a receu du Roy, son maistre, que si sa Majesté Catholique secourait directement ou indirectem^t les Hollandois, sa Maj^{te} très chrestienne entreroit, en main armée, dans les Pays Bas du Roy d'Espagne, pour s'en emparer avec 60 mille combattans et attaqueroit encore la Catalogne avec une armée de 20 mille hommes, et le Milanez avec une autre de pareil nombre, et qu'en cas que sa ditte Majesté Cath: veuille demeurer neutre en cette affaire, le Roy très chrestien luy promet de surseoir les demandes qu'il faict des dependances de ses conquestes, jusqu'à la majorité du Roy Catholique, et que si elle veut accorder à ses troupes

¹ The Spanish Ambassador.

² Charles Lewis, Elector Palatine.

le passage libre par dessus ses terres des Pays Bas, et leurs faire fournir des ditz Pays Bas les vivres et fourrages dont elles pourront avoir besoin. sa Majesté très chrestienne luy offre de luy abandonner entièrement toutes ses pretentions touchant les dittes dependances, sur quoy l'on attend la response de cette Reine.

‘ D’autres lettres de Madrid du 20^e du passé portent que le bruit est grand en cette Cour que la Reine d’Espagne a ratifié un traicté de ligue deffensive, faict par le Comte de Monterey, avec les Estats Generaux des Provinces Unies, par lequel ils s’engagent reciproquement à s’entresecourir d’un certain nombre de troupes, mais que la Reine d’Espagne s’est reservée à ne se déclarer contre l’attaquant que six mois après la declaration de la guerre.

‘ L’on mande de Vienne, que le Ministre de l’Empereur à la Porte y negotie un renouvellement du dernier traicté faict entre sa Maj^{te} Imp: et le Grand Seigneur, et que pour obtenir une prolongaõn de la trêve porter par ce traicté, il s’engage d’abandonner la Pologne à la discrétion des armes Ottomanes, et de ne donner aucun secours au Roy de Pologne, son beau frère, mais que l’on a advis que la Porte a envoyé Capigi Bachi, arrivé à Vienne, pour demander passage par-dessus les terres de sa Maj^{te} Imp: en Hongrie, pour une armée que les Turcs veulent faire entrer en Pologne par ce chemin, ce qui embarrasse fort cette cour dans la crainte où elle est, que si l’on refuse ce passage, les Turcs n’en prennent occasion d’attaquer la Hongrie, et que si on la leurs accorde, cette armée ne retombe sur la Hongrie après avoir ravagé la petite Pologne.

‘ Sa Maj^{te} Imp: a escrit au Roi très chrest:, à la sollicitation des Estatz Generaux des Provinces Unies, pour luy offrir sa mediation,¹ et luy permettre de luy faire obtenir toute sorte de satisfaction de leur part, si sa Maj^{te} très chrest. veut suspendre les resolutions qu’elle peut avoir prises contr’eux et sa dicte Maj^{te} Imp: est dans le dessein d’envoyer un ministre vers le Roy d’Angleterre pour le mesme sujet.

‘ L’on escrit de La Haye que le Prince d’Oranges n’a pas encore accepté la charge de Capitaine General des Estatz avec les conditions auxquelles elle luy a esté offerte parce que ses amys ont trouvé que son pouvoir y seroit trop limité, et que n’estant esleu que par

¹ A footnote is attached to the MS. as follows: ‘ The Elector of Mentz solicited the Emperor for mediation between France, &c.’

interim jusques au mois de Novembre prochain, il devoit la refuser, à moins qu'il n'en fust pourveu aux mesmes conditions que ses predecesseurs l'ont possédée, surquoy les provinces de Gueldre et de Zelande ont tesmoigné du uncontentiment¹ contre la Province de Hollande de ce qu'elle a voulu y mettre ces restrictions, et menagent mesme de se destacher d'avec elle et de se mettre soubz la protection de la France, si elle ne consent à restablir plainement le Prince D'Oranges dans toutes les charges, honneurs, et prerogatives de ses pères, et que les ditz Etatx se sont reassemblés pour delibrer tout de nouveau sur cette affaire.

' L'on mande de Thoulon, que le Sr d'Almeras y a receu du Roy des lettres, par lesquelles sa Maj^{te} le faict Marquis avec les provisions de Contre Admiral de France, et commission de commander cette année une escadre de six vaisseaux du Roy et un bruslot dans la mer Mediterranée, où le Sr de Martel en commandera une autre de pareil nombre.

' L'on escrit de la Rochelle, que l'on equipe à Rochefort pluzieurs grandz vaisseaux du Roy, et qu'il en doibt sortir au printemps, tant de la rivière de Charente que de Brest, 40 de la première grandeur, et onze fregattes ou bruslotz, sans compter pluzieurs autres vaisseaux moindres qui sortiront tant de ces portz que du Havre de Grace et autres.

' L'on a faict un nouveau party qui doibt fournir au Roy huict millions pour les despenses extraordinaires de la guerre, lequel consiste en la supression que l'on va faire de prés de la moitié des Tresoriers de France, dont il y a un grand nombre, en obligeant ceux qui resteront, de donner au Roy, chacun dix mil livres, à cause de l'augmentation de la valeur de leurs charges par cette suppression, moyenant quoy, on leurs rendra le droict annuel, qui leurs a esté osté.

' De plus, par le mesme party, l'on taxe tous les roturiers qui possèdent des fiefz nobles; l'on faict financer tous les receveurs geneaux des finances en augmentant leurs gages; l'on recherche les notaires, greffiers, huissiers, et sergentz qui ont exercé sans estre pourveu en tiltre d'office pour les taxer; l'on recherche encore ceux qui ont degradé ou usurpé sur les foretz du Roy, et l'on cassa une party des officiers des greniers à sel, dont on attribue la fonction aux esleus, moyenant certaine somme qu'ilz seront obliger de payer. Samedi, le Roy tinst le Sceau assisté de six Conseillers

¹ i.e. *Mécontent*.

d'Estat, qui estoient assis et couvertz, trois de chaque costé d'un table, et le Roy au bout, avec six Maistres des Requestes, qui estoient debout et decouvertz derrière sa chaire, et qui rapportèrent les arretz, les graces, et autres pièces qu'il y avoit à sceller, et la Reine, ayant faict demander au Roy si sa Majesté agréeroit qu'elle satisfist la curiosité qu'elle avoit de le venir voir tenir le Sceau, le Roy luy fist response, qu'elle y pouvoit venir, et elle y vint avec un par-chemin à la main contenant la grace de S^r de la Rochecourbon, gendre de M^r Colbert du Teron, et cy-devant Lieutenant des Gardes de la Marine, qui a tué le Chevalier de Bouillon,¹ laquelle grace elle pria le Roy de sceller, ce qu'il fist, en disant que la suppliante estoit de trop bonne maison pour estre refusée. Lundy, le Roy continua de tenir le Sceau pour achever de faire sceller ce qui restoit, et sa Majesté porte la clef de la cassette où sont les Sceaux comme faisoit M^r le Chancelier, et a donné cette cassette à garder au S^r de Chamaranthe, l'un de ses premiers Valletz de Chambre. L'on assure que le Roy a resolu de ne point faire de Chancelier, ny de Garde des Sceaux, et de continuer d'en faire les fonctions, et que M^r D'Aligre² presidera seulement au conseil des parties, ainsy que M^r le Mareschal de Villeroy à celuy des finances.

‘Le Roy a resolu de prendre le soing de l'education des princes de Conty,³ et de les faire eslever auprès de M^r le Dauphin, et les faire manger à sa table. Sa Majesté a pris le petit deuil pour la mort de Ma^{de} leur mère.⁴

‘Le Marquis de Miossens,⁵ frère du Mareschal D'Albret, Gouverneur de Guienne, a esté tué en ce pays-là par le S^r de S^t Leger, frère du S^r de la Rochecourbon, qui vient d'obtenir sa grace. L'on croid que c'est un duel, et le dit S^r de S^t Leger a esté pris prisonnier.

‘Le Comte de Konigsmark, qui est icy, a receu ordre de la Reine de Suède de se disposer à prendre la qualité de son Ambassadeur Extraordinaire en cette Cour.

‘Mardi au soir, le Roy envoya commander au Marquis de Villeroy

¹ Constantin Ignace de la Tour, Chevalier de Bouillon.

² Etienne d'Aligre.

³ The sons of Armand de Bourbon, the brother of the ‘grand Condé.’ The eldest, Louis Armand, born 1661, married Mademoiselle de Blois, the daughter of Louis and Madame de la Vallière. The second, François Louis, Prince de la Roche-sur-Yon, born 1664, married Adelaide de Bourbon.

⁴ See p. 189, n. 2.

⁵ François Amanieu d'Albret, Comte de Moissens, Seigneur d'Ambleville.

de se retirer a Lion : l'on ne scayt pas encore le sujet de sa disgrâce.¹ Le bruict court que le Duc de Lorraine a faict son accomodement, par lequel le Roy le remet en possession de sa Duché et de tous les revenues qui en dependent, à condition que sa Majesté y pourra faire passer telles troupes que bon luy semblera en payant, et qu'elle pourra mesme y faire sejourner $\frac{m}{12}$ hommes de pied et 4,000 chevaux quand il luy plaira, et y faire une citadelle à Nancy ou ailleurs, à son choix, en laquelle sa Majesté tiendra garnison pour s'asseurer de la fidelité de ce Duc, qui ne pourra avoir aucune place fortifiée dans son Estat.'

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Feb. 13th, '72.

Two days since, at the request of Madam, the King declared that if the Chev^r de Lorraine came to Court hee should bee well-come,² whereupon Mons^r le Grand³ immediately sent a courier to Rome & it is said that, at his returne, the King will give him the commission of Marshall du [sic] Battaille, there being no more Marshall de Camp. In a former, I advised you that there was some misunderstanding about receptions of Amb^{rs} & Nuntios here & at Rome. I may now reconcile all by the King's desiring that Nerli may bee the man, in which case hee shall bee received with much honour & civility, but will by noe means admit of an Italian or Spaniard in that Commission (i.e.) that are of such interest other than that of France. Wee hear thence also of the Duchesse of Mazarine⁴ being lately dead.

They talke here of peace as if never were any dessigns for a warre, but I attribute it to their being weary of one discourse. M^r du Louvoy saith hee hath bought at Mayence & conveyed to Nuys $\frac{400}{\text{milliers}}$ of powder.

¹ See letter dated Feb. 13, 1672.

² Footnote to MS., 'But the Marq^e de Villeroy was disgraced because, as I hear, hee insinuated unto Madam to make that request.'

³ *Le Grand Ecuyer*, Louis de Lorraine, Comte d'Armagnac.

⁴ Hortensia Mancini, niece of Cardinal Mazarin and mistress of Charles II. (See Macaulay, *History of England from the Accession of James II.*, vol. i. p. 430; St. Réal, *Mémoires de la Duchesse de Mazarin*; Evelyn's *Diary*, Sept. 6, 1676, and June 11, 1699.)

The Dutch Amb^r would fain make people believe that hee is treating for an *accomodement*, but since what I mentioned to you in cypher, I have inquired & found that he hath seen noe minister these 15 days.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Feb. 17, '72.

I hear that Mons^r Crackow,¹ Resident from the Duke of Brandenburg, had received orders from his master to sound the minister here to the Duke's mediation, for the composing all the differences between the French & Dutch, telling of Mons^r Pompone that the King's Resident, M^r de S^t Geran, had explained to the Elector of Brandenburg the reasons his Ma^{ty} had to bee offended with the States, as generall & particular aspersions on his person, their detaining places belonging to his allyes, but what was most sensible, their insolent behaviour towards his subjects in their trade, & by all means endeavouring to ruine the commerce France was establishing. Crackow replyed to these that the Duke, his master, if his Ma^{ty} would hearken to an *accomodement*, offer'd that the States should give him satisfaction as to the point of honour, by punishing, as his Ma^{ty} shall think fitt, any persons in their state he shall pick out that have offended him ; that, as to the second point, the States should restore Rhinsberg to the Elector of Cullen, & to the last about trade, that they should enter in such Treaty for the regulation of it as the King should think fitt. M^r Pompone acquainted the King with what the Resident had proposed, promising him an answer, but his Ma^{ty} sent for him himselfe & told him that hee would accept of the Elector's mediacōn as soon as of any other Prince, but it was no time to think of an accomodation, provocations having exasperated matters too far not to bee revenged of them. I suppose the Dutch putt the Elector on offring his mediation & their giving all reasonable satisfactions, although it bee likely they will disowne all, since it took noe effect here. The King, having occasion for all eminent officers to serve him the next *Campaigne*, hath called the Duke de Navailles to Court again, whose disgrace proceeded from some mistakes at Candia. He hath also sent for Mons^r de Cologni,² who commanded the Hungarian troops, & one M^r Passage,³ an able officer.

¹ Lorenz Georg von Krockow.

² Jean de Coligny, Comte de Saligny (1617-1686).

³ Aimard de Poisieux, Marquis du Passage, lieutenant-general.

They say, at Court, that Spaine will not yet declare itselfe as to the present conjuncture ; whether it bee to gaine time, in order to the putting itselfe into a better posture, or a hesitation in its counsell what measures to take, wee know not.

The Card^l Patroon hath sent a manifesto to all the Pope's ministers in other Courts, wherein is a declaration how this Court, contrary to the rules & customes of all others, pretended to have their Ambassador received at Rome, without assuring at the same time that the Pope's Nuntio should also be admitted of here.

These days past the Officers of the King's house have been consulting about all necessary orders for the march of the King's household.

The enclosed for Mr Treasurer¹ is an account of a sad disaster befallen his kinsman Mr Hals & one Mr Peyto, who wer both killed in the streets on Sunday last by two other English.

' ce 18^e Fevrier 1672.

' L'on a expédié de nouveaux ordres du Roy pour faire encore marcher en Allemagne neuf à dix mille hommes des troupes de sa Majesté qui doivent prendre la mesme routte que les précédentes en partant des trois Eveschés pour se rendre par le pays de Trèves dans l'Electorat de Cologne.

' Sa Maj^{te} a dict que cette année elle mettroit en campagne 75 mille hommes de pied et 20 mille chevaux pour le secours de ses alliés, sans compter les garnisons de ses places, et quelq[u]un ayant dict là-dessus à sa Majesté qu'il faudroit bien des vivres pour entretenir tant de troupes en campagne, le Roy respondit qu'il sca voit qu'il luy falloit $\frac{m}{150}$ rations de pain par jour, mais que quand ses troupes seroyent entrées dans les terres des Hollandois il en faudroit moins, et que le pays leurs en fourniroit une bonne partye en le faisant contribuer. Il y a quelques jours que Madame dist au Roy qu'elle avoit une grâce à luy demander, mais qu'elle ne luy diroit point ce que c'estoit si sa Maj^{te} ne luy promettoit de la luy accorder, et qu'elle espéroit que, comme c'estoit la première qu'elle luy eust encore demandée, il ne la luy refuseroit pas, à quoy le Roy luy respondit, qu'il la luy accorderoit volontiers, pourveu qu'elle n'allast pas contre le bien de son Estat, et alors Madame luy demanda le retour du Chevalier de Lorraine, ce qu'elle a faict à la

¹ Sir Thomas Clifford.

prière de Monsieur, à qui sa Maj^{té} dist, après l'avoir accordé à Madame, qu'il pouvoit envoyer un courier à Rome pour en faire revenir ce chevalier ainsy que le Comte de Marsan, son frère ; surquoy Monsieur luy en depescha un aussytost pour le rappeler, et son Altesse Royale luy faict faire un bel equipage a dessein de l'envoyer au devant de luy, et de luy en faire present. De plus, sa Majesté a resolu de faire le dicte Chevalier de Lorraine l'un des Mareschaux de Camp de son armée, mais le Roy s'estant informé qui avoit conseillé à Monsieur de se servir de l'entremise de Madame pour obtenir le retour de ce chevalier, et ayant sceu que c'estoit le Marquis de Villeroy, l'on attribue en partye à ce conseil la disgrace et l'exil de ce Marquis ainsy qu'à un emportem^t de parolles qu'il a eu contre M^r de Louvoy, sur ce qu'il n'a pû obtenir la qualité qu'il demandoit de Mareschal de Camp pour la campagne prochaine. L'on asseure que le Roy a resolu de rappeler Monsieur de Navailles et de luy donner de l'employ pour servir en la prochaine guerre. Le Cardinal de Retz arrive aujourd'huy ou demain à Paris.

' Les Archevesques de Rheims et de Paris, qui avoyent eu quelque demeslé, se sont reconciliés et ont disné ensemble, et l'Archevesque de Paris en a faict de mesme avec le Cardinal de Bouillon, avec lequel il s'estoit brouillé touchant les rangs.¹

' Les derniers lettres de Rome portent qu'il y est arrivé un courier extraord^{re} de France qui y a apporté la nomination faicte par le Roy très christien du Comte Guillaume de Furstemberg pour estre faict Cardinal en la première promotion des couronnes, sans prejudice des pretentions de l'Evesque de Laon à la nomination de la couronne de Portugal et celles de l'Archevesque de Thoulouse à la nomination de la Pologne. L'on dict que ce dernier va à Rome solliciter luy-mesme son chapeau, comme faict l'Evesque de Laon. L'abbé Vibo, Intermonce du Pape en France, a faict scavoir en cette Cour, par ordre de sa S^{te}, qu'ayant appris que le Duc d'Estrées estoit en chemin pour venir faire les fonctions d'Ambassadeur de France à Rome, elle avoit aussytost donné ordre au S^r Nerli de se rendre à Paris pour y exercer l'employ de son Nonce, et que pour conserver l'égalité entre sa dicte S^{te} et sa Majesté très chrestienne, elle declaroit qu'elle ne pouvoit pas recevoir le dict Duc d'Estrées en qualité d'Amb^r, qu'à condition que sa Maj^{té} promettoit

¹ See p. 185.

de recevoir au mesme temps le S^r Nerli en qualité de son Nonce Apostolique; surquoy M^r de Pompone luy a respondit [sic] de la part du Roy, que le Duc d'Estrées estoit chargé d'ajuster cette affaire avec la Cour de Rome, laquelle response a esté faite à dessein de mettre par advance ce Duc en possession de son employ d'Amb^r, et d'obliger la Cour de Rome à le recevoir en cette qualité, en attendant que l'on se soit déterminé touchant la reception du nouveau Nonce.

' L'on dict que le Comte de Marcin est en traicté pour rentrer au service de la France par l'entremise de M^r le Prince, soubz lequel il serviroit en ce cas en Allemagne avec la qualité de General des troupes de l'Electeur de Cologne dont il est né sujet, estant du Pays de Liège, dont cet Electeur est Evesque; et que moyenant ce nouvel attachm^t Sa Maj^{te} très chrest: luy doit faire de grandz avantages pour le recompenser de 30 mille escus d'apoinctem^{tz} qu'il a presentem^t au service d'Espagne en qualité de Mestre de Camp general de toutes les troupes des Pays Bas, et que ce qui luy peut encore obliger est, qu'outre sa qualité de sujet de l'Electeur de Cologne, il a de grandz biens en France du costé de sa femme,¹ qui est françoise, et qui a faict naturalizer ses enfantz en france.

' Le Marquis de S^t André Montbrun ayant demandé au Roy la permission d'aller en Hollande quérir sa fille, qui y est mariée à un Hollandois, pour l'esloigner des desordres de la guerre en la tirant de ce pays et l'amenant en France, Sa Maj^{te} luy a offert tous les passeportz nécessaires pour la faire revenir et ne luy a pas voulu permettre de passer en ce pays; l'on croid que cette permission luy a esté refusée de crainte que, par la zèle que ce Marquis a pour sa religion Calviniste, il ne s'engageast au service des Hollandois et ne voulust périr les armes à la main pour leur deffense.

' Le Roy a donné un mémoire à M^r de Louvoy de 120 Capitaines de Cavallerie qu'il a choisis, avec ordre de remplir de leurs noms autant de nouvelles comissions en blanc qui estoient toutes prestes à estre expédiées, et qu'on leurs doit desliver incessamment pour faire une nouvelle levée de 6,000 chevaux. Il arriva Samedi, au soir, un courrier extraordinaire d'Espagne, qui a apporté des lettres du Marquis de Villardz, par lesquelles il mande que la Reine d'Espagne ne luy rend point de response positive sur le sujet des Hollandois, surquoy le Roy a ordonné d'expédier ces 120 nouvelles comissions de cavallerie.

¹ Catherine de Neuville, daughter of the Duc de Villeroi.

Sa Majesté partira le Mercredi des Cendres de St Germain, pour aller à Versailles à dessein d'y demeurer la plus grande partye du Carême.

'Hier, Monsieur Grotius, Ambassadeur de Hollande, alla à St Germain, où il conféra avec M^r de Pompone.'

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Feb. 20th, '72.

You cannot expect much news at present from this Court, since it is altogether diverting itself with Balets, &c^a.; the common *bruit* is of the Dutch having offered above 20 millions to the French, satisfaction to England, restitutions to Cologne & Munster, but all these I believe proceed only from what I wrote to you about the Elector of Brandenburg's Resident.¹

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : February ye 27th, '72.

The last courier from Spaine brought letters from the Marq^s de Villars to the King, intimating that the Queen Regent was not disposed to make a positive declaration how Spain would behave itself, but still persisted that by the Treaties, without any rupture, it could assist its allies, whenas, at the same time, wee hear from Holland, that the ratification of the defensive league made at the Hague was arrived by sea, & that Don Emanuel de Lira had exchanged them, adding further, that hee had a full commission sent him from the Queen to enter into a further alliance with the offensive also, & that without writing to Spaine or expecting any orders thence upon this subject; & that thereupon hee was in continual negotiation with the States. Whereby your Lopp may perceive, that, as I said in a former, the Court of Spaine had rather that France should *deviner* & guesse at its intentions than to give a solemne declaration what measures it will take. From Switzerland wee hear that there is like to be a rupture between one of the Cantons *Catholique* & that of Bearne upon an old difference which it seems is not yet made up; in which case, all the Protestant Cantons will joine with the latter, as will the *Catholiques* with the former.

¹ See letter dated Feb. 17, 1672.

The Elector of Brandenburg keeps both the French & Dutch Ministers in suspense. The first solicites a neutrallity, & the other compliance with some antient defensive Treaty, when the States had differences with the Bpp of Munster, &c^a.¹ However, the Elector answers to the French agent that hee armes for the defence of his owne territories, & to the Dutch, that noe Treaty obligeth him to assist them against the French. Hee hath already 16,000 men in armes at all adventures.

The Dutch Ambassadour thinks of taking leave within a few days, hee having been told that his stay here signified no other than ye amusing the officers, who have commissions to raise men with apprehensions of an accomodation in hand. Hee went a while since to visit Mr Pompone, & told him that hee made it not as Ambassador to a Minister, but, as they were intimate friends formerly, he desired his opinion in some matters; that as to himselfe, hee was a Frenchman borne, & of all the States' subjects the most devoted to the King's service. Wherefore hee was much concerned to know, whether after all these heats, there were not a possibility of having some propositions for an accomodation laid before the King, in which case, hee would adventure to assure him that his Ma^{ty} would in some degree rest satisfied. Mr Pompone replied that it was too late, & that his Ma^{ty} would not hearken in the least to any such thing—'et que le Roy seroit bien aise qu'il prist son Aud^{ce} de Congé.'

The King's troops in the Elector of Cullen's countrey have been forced to remove out of Nuits, Keyserwaert, Boon, &c^a. into some open villages, for better air, because some diseases incomoded them in those places, where soe many were thronged together. Here is some misticall discourse of growing differences between the Elector Palatin & that of Ments, insomuch as the latter hath sent the Conte de Schonborne² to the Emp^r to demand protection against insults the other might make on him, from his new alliance with France, otherwise that hee himselfe must also throw himselfe on France.

More commissions are dayly given out for the raising of more foot & horse. It is resolved that the Prince of Condé shall command

¹ Louis had been endeavouring since 1668 to form an alliance with the Elector of Brandenburg (Mignet, iii. 288).

² Melchior Frédéric de Schönborn.

the auxiliary troops, viz^t, those that are & shall be sent towards the Rhine, the Duc d'Anguien, his son, to bee his Lieuten^t Generall, & with him two Marshals of France, of which M^r de Crequi will bee one. It is said, also, that the Conte de Vivonne will bee Lieutenant Generall in the King's army in order to his being made *Mareschal* & his command of the Galleys to bee officiated by his Lieuten^t.

The King's daughter ¹ hath been very ill these 6 days, insomuch as the physicians despair of her recovery.

Hee hath given order for his owne equipage to bee ready by the 15th of Aprill.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: March 2^d, '72.

Yesterday I received the honour of yours Feb. 15th, & the day before arrived a courier from the Bpp of Laon with advise that the Pope was on the making some promotions, & that hee thought himselfe would bee one; but imediately after him came another expresse to the ArchBpp of Thoulouze, with news that the Pope had made 3 Cardinalls, one Bavinnes, (if I mistake not,) a Neopolitain, the P^{ce} of Bade for the Emperour, & the s^d ArchBpp for Poland. Soe that you perceive how the Bp of Laon has been hitherto mumpt. However, since P. Nitard is not yet promoted, hee hath still hopes of a Cap. The Court of Rome having, as they imagine, put a kind of slight upon this, it is resolved that the D. d'Estrée shall bee honourably received, because his H^{ss} hath been assured that the s^t Amb^r hath orders to declare that a Nuntio shall bee wellcome at Paris.

Upon the news of Spain's having ratified the project made at the Hague, the King has given out new commissions for the raising 16,000 men, wherof seven thous^d are to bee horse. It is now to bee feared least France turne the first designs into an inroad in Flanders, leaving us & the Dutch engaged, & not able to stop the currant. If soe, the whole laudable designe of the 3ple Alliance will bee frustrated, for I really believe France will act no otherwise against the Dutch than by the troops it lends the Elector of Cullen & Bp of Munster.

¹ Marie Thérèse.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : March 5th, '72.

Since the news of the Queen of Spain's ratifying the Treaty ¹ made at the Hague, the King has resolved on the making new levyes, & accordingly 100 commissions are given out for the raising of horse to as many captains who were all chosen out by the King himselfe. Besides which, hee is resolved to raise 2,000 horse in forreigne parts & 8,000 foot, besides the 120 companies of foot hee gave commissions for some time since. The Army, that is at present on foot, consists of 1,500 companies of French foot, at 53 men in each company, amounting to, in all, 79 thousand 659 men. The forreyne regiments of foot amount unto 38 thous^d 818 men. All the horse, as well *Gens d'Armes*, *Chevaux Legers*, Dragoons, as others, make 27 thou^sd 792, which in all, both foot & horse, amount unto 146,271 men, not counting the Regiment of French guards, the *Suisse*, nor the *Gens d'Armes du Roy*. Yesterday, the King named Mareschal d'Humières to goe & command the troops about the Rhine, telling him that his Ma^{ty} himselfe would follow him in a short time. Mons^r d'Artagnan ² is to command in Lisle in the s^d Mareschal's absence, and the King, hearing that the Spaniards were sending an Army into Catalonia of above twelve thousand men, the S^r le Bret was ordred to goe into Roussillon, to head those troops that are on the place, which are to bee augmented to the number of 8,000 foot & 2,000 horse, untill such time as his Ma^{ty} shall name a Generall to command them, for which charge the Marshalls de Crequy & Bellefonds stand competitors, as well as the C^t de Schomberg.

From Italy, the last courier brought news that the Pope & the Venetians were arming upon the account of a difference between them five years since, about the River Po, which the Venetians turned from the territories of Ferrare to the great prejudice of that countrey, which belongs to the Church, but everybody looks on this as an amusing pretext only for their arming, which tends to the assisting of the Spaniards, in case the French should attaque Milan ; & I believe, if the King hath any designes that way, that the Duke of Savoy may bee concerned against the Milanese.

¹ Treaty of the Pyrenees, by which the Dutch and Spanish arranged to help each other.

² Charles de Bats-Castelmor, Comte d'Artaignan.

{ 79,659 Foot French
38,818 " Foreigne
118,477 Foot
27,792 Horse

In the French Gazette your Lopp will see how successfull the undertakers have been as to the *jonction des deux mers*, a worke that hath hitherto seemed ridiculous.

The Court is in deep mourning for the death of Madam the King's daughter.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : March 7th, '72.

Yesterday, by the ordinary post. I made bold to trouble your Lopp, & now the inclosed letter¹ being fallen into my hands by the mistake of a name, it being intended, to perceive by the contents, for somebody belonging to the Spannish Ambassadour here, I thought it not amisse for some expressions as 'dos personas de la sala baja' & what preceded them, to transmit it to your Lopp. By the consequence of the hints about the ratifications, the cypher being subsequent, it may give line to the sequel about the Parliament. Att Court the visage is much altered, for before there was nothing more discoursed than to attack Flanders, Catalonia, Milan, &c^a, &, at present, it is said 'que le Roy ne veut pas faire la guerre aux Espagnols,' & all is attributed to the English, who are said to bee much against any rupture towards Flanders; nay, this hath taken soe much root among the *Soldatesque*, that they begin now to apprehend that there will be noe warre. The Duke of Savoy hath sent order to his Amb. here to acquaint the King that hee is intended to arme himselfe, seeing all his neighbours are putting themselves into defensive postures.

The Dutch give out here that they are in a manner assured of the Sweeds if troubles should continue after this year bee expired. Their Amb^r is to have this week his Audience of *Congé*, if at last these people doe not listen to fair propositions, hee having, of late, been very busy to endeavor the patching up an accomodation, which is the more spoken of because the French seem to bee out of the measures they had proposed to themselves, which they ingeniously begin now to confesse were to embroyle us in a warre with the Dutch, & fall on Flanders.

¹ The enclosure is missing.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 9th, '72.

Here is little of variety only in looks & discourse of some people, in soe much that the *Soldatesque* begin to despaire, imagining that, after all these noises of warre, there may bee little of action this summer. However, all the great officers are named who shall have any considerable command in ye armies, & 400 horse are preparing for to carry the King's owne baggage, which hee will use, rather than waggons, for more speedy removalls from place to place as occasion shall serve.

The C^t de Charroot ¹ hath sold his place of Capt: of the Guards to the Duc Duras, nephew to M^{ll} Turenne *moyenant* 50 th^d pistolls, & the other is made Lieutenant *du Roy* in Picardy, under the Duc d'Elbeuf. The Chev^r de Lorraine has been at Court these 3 days, & for more modesty, Monsieur was at Paris at that time when hee came to Versailles. Yesterday, my L^d Amb^r had Aud^{ce} of *Condoleance* upon the death of Madam, *la fille du Roy*. Mr Digby ² arrived here last night, & his Ex^{ce} [is] gone to Versailles again this morning. Wee hear that Quinones ³ intends to quitt the governem^t of the Franche Comté, forseeing that hee shall not be able to maintain it in case the French enter into it this summer, which I can hardly believe they will doe, if some neighbours consider their interest.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : March 12th, '72.

Att Court, the late busines has been to name the generall officers for this *Campayne*; the Bpp of Munster intending to command his owne forces, which are said to bee more then 20,000 men, the Duke of Luxembourg is to bee next him, & Mr de Renel ⁴ to command the horse, assisted by Mons^r de La Valière ⁵ (brother to the lady of that name).

¹ Louis de Béthune, comte de Charost.

² Captain Francis Digby, son of George, Earl of Bristol.

³ Don Hieronimo de Quinones, member of the Supreme Council of War in Madrid. He was subordinate to the Comte de Monterey, governor of the Low Countries.

⁴ Louis de Clermont d'Amboise, Marquis de Renel.

⁵ Jean François de la Baulme le Blanc, Marquis de la Vallière, governor of Bourbonnais.

I sent your Lopp a list of the French King's army, of which, I hear, hee intends 90,000 foot & 35,000 horse shall bee in the field, the rest to remaine in the severall garrisons, & it's given out that hee himselfe will bee at Lisle to observe the motions of the Spaniards, the late discourse of attacking them in soe many places being vanished for the present. However, the King intends to have forces ready in all quarters, Mons^r de Schomberg being to goe into Roussillon, & the Prince of Condé, his son, the Marshalls of Belfonds & Humières, towards the Rhine. The latter's command at Lisle is to bee succeeded, for the time, by the Sieur d'Artagnan, & the Sieur de Nancre,¹ Governor of Aeth, is made Lieutenant Generall in one of the armies.

Here is at present one, Presid^t Canon, sent by the Duke of Lorrain to *moyennate* an accomodation. The conditions will bee somewhat hard to the Duke if they come to an agreement, the King being resolved that his troops shall have winter quarters, passage, &c.^a in Lorrain, after the restoration, & Prince Charles to ratify the Treaty; & untill his answer be come, there will be nothing done here as to that negotiation. Wee hear that the Elector of Cullen hath sent, to the Empire, his excuses for having lett in forreigne troops into his countrey, but at the same time pleading the reasons hee had for it; hee proposed that if the Emp^r could prevayle on the Dutch to take off the cause on their sides, hee would answer for the withdrawing of the French troops on his, on condition that Rhÿnsberg bee restored to him without any reserve: that thereupon the Emp^r had sent orders to the Baron d'Isola² to move it to the States, especially because M^r Gremonville assured him, that were Rhÿnsberg restored, his Master's troops should goe out of the Elector's countrey. The French have reason to wish this proposition took effect, because soe considerable a post could not then stop their progresse & their troops might comply with the agreement, quitting the Elector's countrey, & advancing further into that of the Hollanders.

It is thought the King's march will be late in the spring, by reason of the winter's severity & backwardnesse. Instead of charriots,³ hee has ordered four hundred Sumpter horses to bee

¹ Claude Antoine de Dreux, Comte de Nancre.

² The Ambassador of Austria at the Hague.

³ 'Waggons' interlined in MS.

brought to carry his baggage, that hee may move with more speed from place to place. The expences of his Army this *Campagne* are estimated at the Treasury to amount unto 13,700,000 livres every four months, upwards of eleven hundred thousand pound sterling.

The Chev^r de Lorrain is come back, not a little to Monsieur's satisfaction.¹ Here is a report as if the C^t de Lauzun, out of *chagrin*, having much wood in his chamber, set fire on it, & if the continell had not perceived a smoke, M^r Fouquet who lodgeth above him, had suffered by it.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris, March 19th, 72.

Since my last to your Lopp a Councell of Warre hath been held at Versailles, as well for the naming of principall Commanders as for the disposing of the maritime affaires, in order whereunto the following officers were named.

In the King's owne Army.

The Comt de Soissons	} are <i>Lieutenans Generaux.</i>
M ^r de la Feuillade	
M ^r de Rochefort	
M ^r le Grand Maistre ²	
M ^r de Lorge ³	
M ^r de Gadagne ⁴	
The Chev ^r de Lorraine	} are <i>Marshalls de Camp.</i>
M ^r de Montal ⁵	
M ^r de Genlis	
M ^r Martinet	

It is supposed that Mareschal Turenne commands the whole army next the King.

¹ See p. 65.

² Henri de Daillon, Comte, later Duc du Lude, Grand Maître de l'Artillerie

³ Guy de Durfort-Duras, Comte, later Duc de Lorges.

⁴ Charles Félix de Galéan, Comte de Gadagne.

⁵ Charles de Montsaulnin, Comte de Montal.

In the Prince of Condé's Army.

The C ^t de Guiche	}	are <i>Lieutenans Generaux</i> .
M ^r de S ^t Abre ¹		
M ^r de Foucaut ²		
M ^r le C ^t du Plessis	}	<i>Marshalls de Camp</i> .
M ^r le C ^t de Choyseul		
M ^r le C ^t de Nogent ³		
M ^r de Magalotti		

it being still supposed, as I formerly advised, that the Duke d'Anguien, with two *Mareschaux de France*,⁴ will bee generalls in this army.

And Marshall de Crequi's army, (*en camp volant*, to bee moving to & again, as occasion shall serve,) will have M^r de Nancré, Governor of Aeth, for its Lieutenant Generall, & M^r de Vaubrun, with the Chev^r du Plessis, for Marshalls *de Camp*.

As to the Maritimé, de la Faboulière, (an Engineer your Lopp remembers served in England) was sent yesterday in haste to Rochefort, with orders to M^r Colbert de Terron for the hastning out the fleet, which hee told mee consisted of the choycest & best ships, (the least carrying near 60 gunns,) & eight new fireshipps. Hee added that the King had asked him for his map of England & spent much time in observing the place of the French squadron's conjunction with our fleet, which hee said was between the Isle of Wight & Portsmouth, and that the reason why hee was sent in such hast was because there was a noyse at Court that the Dutch would bee early at sea to intercept them.

Here are making at the Arsenal above a hundred copper boats of small weight but capable of holding above a douzen men. It seems, at first, something fabulous, but had I not seen [some] of them already finished I should not have presumed to mention it to your Lopp; the designe of them is said to passe men, notwithstanding the sluyces, as occasion shall serve.

¹ Jean de la Cropte, Marquis de Saint-Abre, killed at Sintzeim in 1674.

² Antoine de Foucault, killed at Turkheim in 1675.

³ Armand de Bautru, Comte de Nogent killed at the 'Passage of the Rhine June 22, 1672.

⁴ Marshalls de Belfonds and d'Humières.

On Thursday last, I hear, a Councell was held to consult how France should behave itself towards Spaine in case the Queen assists the Hollanders according to agreement between them, & that it was at last resolved not to break with the Spaniards, however, unlesse they should first declare themselves against France.

The Dutch Amb^r has sent away all his baggage & will take his leave about two days hence. Wee hear that the C^t de Monterey has raised great duties on the corne & other provisions. The French passe through part of Flanders towards their magazines in Nuits.

Yesterday arrived here the Marq^s de Blanquefort, & this morning M^r Digby is gone for Versailles. M^r Martin is also come, & my L^d Amb^r will have speedy Audience about his busines.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 23, '72.

I have very little matter to entertaine you with by this ordinary. C. Digby goes hence this day towards Rochefort to visit the French ships, & wee expect every moment M^r Lockhart's¹ arrivall, as wee doe also that of M^r de Schomborne [Schoenborn] from Vienna to adjust in this Court matters for the security of the Empire during the *demeslé*, as particularly that the French might proceed to reduce severall places the Dutch possesse on the Rhyne without any *choque* to the Empire, provided that they restore them to the proprietours & not keep them in their owne hands. In my last I sent you a list of the generall officers; I hear since that M^r de Bussy² is to command a small body in Bourgoyne, M^r de Bret another in Catalogne, & that in Flanders, with the King himselfe, I hear may in all probability make some inroad because it is conjectured so from the abundance of horse providing for the carriage of all manner of provisions which were otherwise needlesse. Wee hear from Spaine that they intend to send 9,000 old souldiers that served ag^t the Portuguese into Flanders, besides the 3,000 raising in Germany, that 18 ships are equipping in Biscaye & Cadis, & that they expect 24 from the Dutch.

Mons^r Stoop is gone for Switzerland to capitulate the raising

¹ Ambassador from England.

² Roger de Rabutin, Comte de Bussy.

6,000 *Suisse* & hinder the 3,000 the C. de Dhona was raising for the Dutch to goe into their service.¹

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: March 26th, '72.

On Thursday last the Dutch Ambassadour had his Audience of *Congé*, at which time the King told him what a great esteem & kindnesse hee had for the Amb^r's person, but that, as to his Master's, hee desired not to hear any mention. Whereupon, hee complimented the King in very high termes, wishing him prosperity & successfull armes against any of his enemies, excepting only his owne *patrie*. Hee was yesterday to take leave of my L^d Amb^r & goes hence about Tuesday.

In my last I sent your Lopp a list of the generall officers of the three armys, since when there has been no alteration but addition of *Aides de Camp*; among others are the C^t d'Ayen,² the Marq^s d'Angeau,³ & a son⁴ of the C^t d'Estrades, besides brigadeers that shall command 6,500 men. The King's army is now said to consist of 52,000, wherof 13 thousand are horse; the Prince of Condé's army to bee of 33,000, besides allies, & that of Marshall Crequi of 24 thou^d men. After this manner I hear the three armies are to bee disposed of: the King's owne to goe into the Pays de Liège along the Meuze towards Maestricht, whence, if occasion bee, it may passe along the Rhyne & joyne with the Prince of Condé, which can also march along the Issel & joine with the Bpp of Munster's forces; and that of the Marshall Crequi is to bee in Flanders to observe the motion of the Spaniards, &, if occasion bee, may serve for a *corps de reserve*. The chief *rendez vous* is to bee at Rocroy,⁵ where most of the troops are ordered to bee the 24th of Aprill to march thence towards Maziers,⁶ & soe forwards into the Pays de Liège. I believe the King himselfe will bee not long after them, hee having given order that all his owne baggage bee ready against that time.

¹ On the part of Sweden.

² Anne Jules, Comte d'Ayen, later Duc de Noailles.

³ Philippe de Courcillon, Marquis de Dangeau.

⁴ Louis, Marquis d'Estrades, who was made the Governor of Gravelines and Dunkirk after his father's death in 1711.

⁵ Footnote to MS., 'Charleroy.'

⁶ See p. 143, n. 1.

I am told, but cannot ascertain the truth of it, that another Treaty is made at Bruxelles offensive, & that ye Dutch have prevailed on ye Queene of Spaine to seise on all English ships & goods in Spaine as soon as ye English shall take any Dutch ships.¹

Wee hear from Italy that the Marq^s d'Asturgas² has behaved himselfe like a Spanyard, for he no sooner heard that Père Nitard was left out in the last promotion of Cardinalls but [he] refused to give the Nuntio audience, & in a manner confined him to his palace, because, before hee left Rome, the Pope had promised him the s^d father should have the Cap at the first promotion. The Spannish Amb^r is preparing for his publick entry & it is thought his stay may not bee long after it.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: April 24, '72.

On Wednesday, the Marq^s de Seignelay went towards Rochefort & Brest to hasten the ships out. Before hee went, hee was established in his father's charge of 'Secrétaire d'Estat de la maison du Roy et de la Marine,' & accordingly performed the functions in signing dispatches, &c^a. Mons^r Colbert & M^r le Tellier stay with the Queen, who is to bee present in Councell & at the sealing, in the same manner as the King does at present.

S^r W^m Lockhart arrived here yesterday & I believe may leave us in a few days. The Spannish Ambassadour should have made his entry two days since, had not hee made a difficulty about his preceding the Princes of the blood, grounded upon the dispute my L^d Holles made here. Hee allows that before the Marq^s de Fuentes³ & other Spannish Ambassadors gave precedence to the P^{ols} of the blood, but since an English Amb^r has stickled at it, hee cannot but doe the like. A few days will learne us what will bee done herein.

L'Abbé Cataloni, who came hither with the Cap for the ArchBp of Thoulouze, hath had audience of the King, but somewhat coldly, & it is believed may bee somewhat mortified before hee leaves this place, since this Court is very positive for the Bp

¹ In cipher, deciphered.

² Don Antonio Pedro Gomez Davila Alvarez Osorio y Toledo, Marquis de San Roman, Marquis d'Astorga, Viceroy of Sicily 1672-1675.

³ Marquis de la Fuente.

of Laon, as hath Card^l Altieri in a manner sworne that hee shall not bee promoted as soon as hee expected.

As to the affaires with Holland, it was once resolved that a herauld should bee sent to declare the warre, but I hear since that a *valet de pied du Roy* carries a *lettre de cachet* to that effect, & a manifesto in the presse ag^t the Dutch supervised by M^r Pelisson, the famous oratour of France. Here is also a book printed which I have sought after, containing the reasons why England & France should bee nearly allyed. As soon as it comes to my hands y^r Lopp shall have it sent you.

From Germany we hear, that as soon as the Emp^r shall be assured of the Turks' designes only ag^t Poland, hee will send 15,000 men to assist the Dutch & posted in the Franche Comté.

The Prince of Condé goes away suddainly, & it's said the King will bee soe near him as to have advice from his army every 6 heures; that Wesel will bee the first place besieged, & as for Maestricht, that the King himselfe may make it a diverting siege without the losse of a man by raising of workes about it, as was at Candia; that the troops in Cullen are much stressed because of the dearnes of Provision. The King has regulated all the tables in the armys, that no extraordinary expences shall bee made at them in sweetmeats & delicacies, but that all shall consist in substantiall butcher's meat. Hee hath given the gouvernement of St Quentin to M^r de Pradel because of the importance of that place. The *rendevous* of the P^{ce} of Condé's army is to bee at Mets & Verdun, thence into Cologne, & to assemble near Rhynsberg. The King will not goe till about the 5th of May S.N.: he will march strait to CharleRoy where hee will meet his army to goe thence towards the Pays de Liège.

The Overtures the Dutch make to the Elector of Brandenburg are to take out their garrison in the citty of Orsoy, to leave the Elector in full possession of it, & to give him 400,000 crownes to raise 12,000 men in his territories, which shall bee maintained in the Duchy of Cleves in the Elector's name. The C^t de Lislebonne¹ is come to Court from the Duke of Lorraine to make his submissions *au Roye* & sollicite his being restored to his Dutchy.

The King has sent letters to all his maritime provinces, acquainting them with the warre hee designed against the Dutch, &

¹ François Marie Jules de Lillebonne.

commanding them to keep the commonalty in a posture to prevent any injury on the coasts.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: April 6th, '72.

I was at Versailles yesterday & the day before with Sr W^m Lockhart, who had a favorable Audience of the King, & was generally well received att Court.

The King talks of going to the *Campagne* about the latter end of this month, but many doubt it because of want of forrage, as to[o] early in the year. M^r de Lislebonne had brought the Duke of Lorrain's affaires into a fair way of an accomodation, but all was broken off two daies agoe. The Treaty contained the Duke's being restored to his countrey *moyenant* the King's building cittadells where hee pleased, maintaining 12,000 in his countrey, the Duke's keeping 5,000 horse for the French service, & the P^{cc} of Vaudemont's renouncing of former concessions by articles upon the receiving a certain sum of money. I know not what should break such an advantagious Treaty on this side, unles it were the death of Mad^e La Douairière d'Orleans ¹ on Sunday last.

The King was expected at Parliament on Saturday last, but it seems hee would not vouchsafe his presence. However, a body of them hath assured him of compliyance to all his edicts for the raising of money; nay, I hear of a person in Paris who is an usurer, & was told the King had been informed how rich hee was & how unprofitable to the publick in burying all his wealth, that hee had better compound to save the rest, which hee has done, & I am told, within 2 daies hee is to pay 50 thousand pound sterling.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Ap: 9th, '72.

Herein goes this King's declaration against the Dutch, which was pronounced on Thursday, at which time I being at Versailles, Mons^r de Pompone told mee he had by order sent for Rompf [Rumpf], the Dutch agent, & told him hee should advertise his masters 'qu'ils se tienent sur leur garde,' & have care hereafter as to his correspondence with them, since his being left here is pretended to

¹ Marguerite de Lorraine, wife of Gaston Jean Baptiste d'Orléans.

manage the Prince of Orange's concerns. I told your Lopp, in my last, that the Duke of Lorrain's treaty was broken off, the C^t de Lislebonne, who was here to negotiate the *accomodement*, being since gone away, for, besides what I intimated to y^r Ldpp, the King insisted on, not only the P^{ce} of Vaudimont's quitting the Spanish service, but ye withdrawing also all his troops & concerns into that of the French. Besides which, the King had been informed that, during the Duke's soliciting to bee restored to his countrey, hee was busy in favouring the Dutch levies, whereupon the s^d Count had orders sent him to retire, because his master had rendred himselfe unworthy of the grace the King intended him.

On Thursday the Spanish Amb^r made his entry, & his coaches were preceded by those of the Princes of the blood, and the King, being informed that the C^t de Montereil had stopped some boats with corne & other provisions his victuallers had sent downe the Meuze for the service of the armies after they had twice payed great duties, hath caused complaint therof to bee made to the s^d Amb^r & sent a gentleman to Brussells to know the reason of the seisure. The Edicts now verified in Parliament are :

1st, to suppress all the 'Secrétaires du Roy, maison et couronne;' his Ma^{ty} reserving to himselfe the reestablishing two hundred of them out of the great body : that is to say, in English, every one shall pay considerably to be of the number.

the 2^d, to suppress part of the treasurers of France, to the end the remaining advance also a good summe.

the 3^d, lays an imposition of 20 *sous* a marc for all the silver plate the goldsmiths shall hereafter sell, & 30 *sous* the ounce on the gold.

4^{thly}, a tax on all the *roturiers*, people that are not noble & have bought noble lands called *francfiefs*.

5th, a hereditary establishment of all procurors, notaries, sergeants, &c^a. upon paying a set sum.

And lastly, a creation of new rents at the 18th penny, payable out of the clearest part of the King's revenue to such as will lend the King money upon that fondation.

In consequence of the first, the *Secrétaires* are treating for the revoking it, and offered 60 thousand pistols to M^r Colbert. It is believed that, if they add twenty thousand more, they may prevayle.

The Prince of Condé goes away the next week, & all the troops are ordered to bee at Charleroy, or thereabouts, on the 3^d of May,

at which time it is also expected that the Duke of Monmouth's regiment should bee compleat & ready to march, according to what Mr de Louvoy told mee, when I went to see what orders were taken for the payment of those already here.

The Duchesse of Bavière¹ hath written to a person of great quality that undoubtedly the Grand Visier designed to besiege Vienna, & by all advice from Constantinople, the storme against Poland will bee blowne over.

Here are some Jersey & Guernsey merchants come purposely to complain of their being ill-used by the French in their trade, in that, whereas before they were confined to two ports only for the bringing in their manufactures, those two are now forbidden them, which ought the rather to bee redressed because in time of warre ships must import only where they can & all ports to bee open to them.

To Lord Arlington.

Apr: 14, '72.

The Spannish Ambassad hath received orders from the Queen, his mistresse, to follow the King this *Campagne*, as hath hee also assurances of others sent to the C^t de Montereï for his giving passage to the King's troops, gunns, ammunition, &c^a. The Savoy Amb^r does also attend the Court, & the C^t St Maurice, his son, hath the charge of *Aide du Camp* in the Army.

I hear that Mons^r Hece is to goe to the Emp^r & make the King's compliment to that Ma^ty, in that during his *demeslé* with the Dutch hee hath not opposed his designs, wherefore hee is also to assure the Emp^r that nothing of violence shall bee offered to any limne of the Empire. Thence the s^d Minister goes to the *Liguez*² with endeavours to qualify their heats, to take their alarmes & dissuade them from assisting the Dutch.

Mons de S^t Romain,³ lately Amb^r at Lisbon, is designed for Switzerland.

Cardⁿ Bonzy being suspected to have too much influence on ye Queene of France in case hee should remaine at Court, ye ministers, being jealous of such his sway during ye managem^t of affaires, doe intend to send him to his Archbishoprick at Tolouse.⁴

¹ Adelheid Henrietta, wife of Ferdinand Maria of Bavaria.

² *i.e.* the boundary line to the Swiss Cantons.

³ Melchior Harod, Marquis de Saint-Romain.

⁴ In cipher, deciphered.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Aprill [no date], '72.

The King's journey now draws nigh. About the 29th of this month hee intends to goe hence towards Rocroy & thence to bee at the *rendezvous* at Charleroy the 2^d or 3^d of May S.N., in order whereunto the troops of his house & equipage march the 24th currant. The Prince of Condé goes to Sedan, which makes some believe hee will besiege Maestricht before hee putts himselfe at the head of his Army near the Rhine; the Marshall Belfonds may command in his absence.

Wee hear from Belle Isle that the squadron to bee commanded by the S^r du Quesne is already come, & from Rochefort that those ships expected only a favourable wind to bee also at that *rendezvous*, Capt. Digby with the assistance of the Marq^s de Seignelay having contributed much to the hastening them out.

I have translated the King's declaration against the Dutch into French, & caused it to bee printed here, in order to the dispersing of it all over Europe.

*To Lord Arlington.*Paris: Aprill 23th, '72.

Yesterday my L^d Amb^r had his Audiences of *Congé* at S^t Germain's jointly with M^r Godolphin, conducted by the Duke of Longueville.

The King having endowed the Mareschal de Turenne with a generall superiour command¹ in his owne army, as well as in that under the P^{ce} of Condé, next under himselfe, and the Prince, on Thursday night, acquainted the Marshalls de Belfonds & d'Humières with such his resolution, to the end they might comply with it & receive orders from Turenne. But they made many scruples, alledging it to bee an innovation on the great authority of Marshalls of France, since they never were commanded by other than a *Connestable*, which charge being suppressed, it would derogate much from their priviledges to obey one of their brethren. This their answer much offended the King in that they should dispute his pleasure, but out of great kindnes to Mons^r Belfonds,

¹ A footnote is inserted in the MS., as follows: 'Mareschal du Camp, Général des Armées du Roi, a title new created.'

hee sent for him again, imagining that upon second thoughts hee would not remain *opiniastre*. The King then told him hee must comply with what hee decreed for the good of his service, or see his face no more. The Marshall therupon, (as I am told,) made a low silent reverence & retired. It is added, that a courier is sent to the M^r Crequi to acquaint him with the King's mind herein, to the end hee submit thereunto, or expect a consequence.

The King goes away on Thursday without faile, most of his household & the remaining troops being already on the march. The 29th hee lyeth at Laon, & thence to Charleroy, where the Marshall Crequi's forces are ordered to bee after that they had *rendevousd* at Binch & Aeth.

The King is sending the Marq^s de Traesnel to negotiate among the Italian princes, & particularly it is given out that his busines with the P^{ce} of Tuscany & Repub: of Geneva is to obtaine of them a prohibition not to let the Dutch ships come into their ports; but this is very unlikely, either that one should demand or the other grant it.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: May 14th, '72.

My Lord Ambassador went hence post towards Eng^d on Thursday, as did the Duke of Monmouth¹ & M^r Godolphin towards Metz the day before. His Grace's equipage was the most *magnifique* I ever saw in France.

The King left Charleroy on Munday last, at which time all the troops began to march towards the Pays de Liège, since when wee hear that M^r de Fourille was sent out at the head of 3,000 horse & 300 dragoons, & after him marched M. de Turenne, as was thought, to invest Maestricht.

Mons^r Rousseau is come hither from Sweden with the Treaty of Neutrality M^r Pomponne was promised & M^r de Courtin² hath since concluded att Stockholme. The French are somewhat in paine for two of their men of warre they apprehend are fallen into the hands of four Dutch men cruising in the Mediterranean, which makes them hasten out of Thoulon the ships designed for that sea. Att the mouth of the River Charante, they are planting above three score peice of canon for the defence of the King's ships in that

¹ James Scott, Duke of Monmouth, illegitimate son of Charles II.

² Honoré Courtin.

port against any attempts of an enemy, & some horse are also drawing towards that coast for the same purpose. The squadron of seven ships to cruise on the coasts of Spain & Barbary, commanded by the Sieur de Chasteaurenant, are almost ready to sett out.

The Marq^s de Seignelay is gone after the King to performe his charge of *Secrétaire d'Etat* during this *Campagne*, & to give the King an account of his having left his fleet of 30 men of war, 7 fire ships, 6 fregatts, & four flutes, ready to sayle for the coast of England.

To Lord Arlington.

May 167².

Having just now received my letters from a good correspondent in the King's army, I presume to give your Lop a breviary account of its motions since its leaving Charleroy, whence on the 10th it marched four leagues & camped at Tongrenelle,¹ near Conroy,² in Brabant, on the 12th it passed on the right side of Giblou, & camped at Perüe,³ the next day at Branchon,⁴ the 14th att Clogne, where it reposed, expecting that the Prince of Condé & M^{ll} Turenne should have *entrepris quelque blocus* to joine with it; besides, the march being long, the King would not fatigue the troops. It was then supposed that hee would passe by Maestricht & besiege Wesel, or Rhynsberg, or Emerick, the last being most likely to facilitate the taking of Nimeguen, which the King might attempt at the same time as the Prince of Condé should endeavour the passing the river Yssel, to divert the Dutch troops designed for its defence. But nobody could doe otherwise than guesse at the designes because a generall silence was observed *sur les affaires du temps*. Att Liège, there are provisions & magasins to maintaine an army of fourty thousand men for 8 months. A bridge is built over the Meuse, between Liège & Maestricht, which confirmed some in the opinion *qu'on va au Rhin*.

On the 15th Mons^r de Chamilly went to Mazik⁵ (a little place below Maestricht w^{ch} would never receive a garrison from the Elector of Cologne). His orders were to summon it to receive one, & upon refusall, to force them to it, because it is said to bee agreed on, in the Treaty between the King & that Elector, that Mazik

¹ Tongres.

² Conneroy.

³ Perwis.

⁴ Brancion.

⁵ Maseick.

shall remain to the French in case Maestricht bee not taken, but otherwise the King shall restore that little place to the Elector, who shall resigne up to his Ma^{ty} all his rights to Maestricht.

On the 16th, the Army marched strait to Veset [Visé] where is the bridge I mentioned. It reposed till the 22^d to prepare for a longer march.

M^r de Chamilly prevayled on those of Mazik to receive a garrison of 48 companies of foot, who are now at work to fortify the place. The King left 2,000 men in Tongret [Tongres], & as many at Viset, soe that Maestricht is somewhat bridled on all sides. M^r de Lorge appeared within shott of its walls, as he escorted a great convoy; they fired much at him, but in vaine. When the King came to his quarters over against Navagne, the Governor of that Spannish towne gave him a *belle salve* of musquet & canon; the latter killed at one shot five cavaliers & one Lieutenant.

I have another fresh letter from Veset, which says that the Marshall Turenne had joined with the King's army, that there was much likelyhood of the King's passing beyond Maestricht & going strait to Nimegue or Wesel; or, if those places seem to be *bien munies*, that his Ma^{ty} would take more easy posts & fortify them in order [to] the passing the Yssel or the Nahal,¹ because hee will make some great enterprise.²

The Duke of Monmouth is embarquing his Regiment at Metz.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: May the 21st.

The last letters from the army advise that all the bodies should joine in the Pays de Liège on the 19th & that on the 20th they might proceed on some designe; that the King had sent an Envoy to the Governour of Flanders to demand passage for his troops through the Spannish Low Countreys, but was answered by

¹ Nahe, a river in Belgium.

² Mignet, vol. iv. p. 4, says that Holland could be attacked from two sides—the Meuse and the Rhine. The Prince of Condé proposed to take Maestricht first, which belonged to the Elector of Cologne, so as to keep the Spanish in check. Turenne opposed this. His idea was to put troops in Maseick (on the Meuse), so as to block Maestricht, and then to march towards the Rhine. This idea prevailed. Turenne invested Maseick, and after the town had surrendered he fortified it and left a considerable garrison under the command of the Comte de Chamilly.

the C^t de Montereil in a letter to the King, that hee could give no passage untill hee had written to the Queen his Mistresse¹ to know her Ma^{tie}'s intentions, whereupon I hear, the *Envoyé* told him his master would not be delayed, but make his owne way in case passage were denied him. The King has also complained to the s^d Governor of some *sorties* the Dutch troops in the Spannish garrisons had lately made, threatning the attacking the places they retreated in, if they were suffered to doe the like for the future.

The Marq^s de Fouquières,² whom I formerly advised was gone for Germany, is since ordered to succeed M^r Courtin in Sweden, who is returning into France, the Treaty of Neutrality being concluded much to the satisfaction of this Court, & to continue for three years during the warre against the Dutch, in which time, if any Prince of Germany should declare warre against the King of France, the Sweeds are engaged to fall upon such Prince with all their forces, *moyenant* about a hundred thousand pound sterling.

M^r de Ruigny lyes dangerously ill, with little hopes of recovery.

To Lord Arlington.

[May 23, 1672.]³

Yesterday L'Abbé Vibo, the Pope's Internuntio, received an extraordinary dispatch from the Card^l Patron, with the news of father Nitard & the Bpp of Laon being promoted Cardinals on the 16th currant.

In my last I gave your Lopp an account of the French armies, since when wee hear that upon the Prince of Condé's joining the King, great Councillors of Warre have been held, & as yesterday the King had resolved to march forwards towards Rhinsberg. The King having thought fitt to keep all his great magazins in the Pays de Liège, hee hath demanded the putting garrisons into most of the great towns in order to secure such magazins against any incursions from the Dutch, the King having given his word to the Elector to withdraw his garrisons as soon as he should have no more need of the city of Liège to favourise his attempts against Maestricht. Whereupon a Chapter has been called & it's believed

¹ The Queen of Spain.

² Isaac de Pas, Marquis de Feuquières.

³ Endorsed with this date at the back of the MS.

they will consent unto it. I hear the King has been soe ill satisfied with S^r George Hamilton's regiment as to order its being left in garrison.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: May (no date), 1672.

I was yesterday at S^t Germain's where, to the great joy of all the Court, a courier brought advice of the fleets being joyned, as they had also letters from the King's army of its being march'd on a great designe after Mons^r de Turenne, but it is the opinion of most, that Maestricht will not bee the first attack'd. The Deputies of Languedock had Audience yesterday of the Queen Regent, at which, after having made many compliments upon her Matie's conduct in the government, &c^a. they made a present from the states of that Province of two millions of livers, excusing the not giving more upon the great charge they are at in the great undertaking of the *jonction des deux mers*. And to the end y^r Ldpp may see how that worke is advanced, I transmit the book newly printed, of which they gave one to the Queen, it being of great curiosity to see the severall ways for the supplying the Canal with water, even to the cutting into a rocky mountain & making a bason to *escluse* upon occasions into the severall channells. Your Lopp may also please to observe the manner they proceed for the building a mole at the Port de Cepte [Cette] in the Gulph of Lyons, but I much doubt the successe, because of the rapidity of that sea there.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: May 28, '72.

I have little worthy y^r notice by this post to communicate to you, all news that is being what motions are at land or actions at sea. As to the former I will give you the same account I have from a very good correspondent. His last was from Viset of the 18th & goes here inclosed.¹ The King is now at Mazik, a place near Maestricht which would never receive ye Elector of Cullen's garrison, where hee stays till this day ording the fortifications. Hee is to have that place by Treaty between the Elector & him in case Maestricht bee not taken, otherwise the Elector is to have

¹ The enclosure is missing. Louis crossed the Meuse at Visé, situated between Liège and Maestricht, on May 17 (Mignet, vol. iv. p. 5).

Mazik & resigne up all his rights to Maestricht. The P^{ce} of Condé's army & that of Mr de Turenne have joined the King's. Wesel, Nimeguen & Rhinsberg are the places that may be first besieged. At Viset a bridge is made over the Meuse between Liège & Maestricht which makes some believe that a body is intended towards the Rhine.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: June the 1st, '72.

I was yesterday at S^t Germain's, among other things to sollicite some redresse to the cryes of our Jersey & Guernsey marchants, who were forbidden the entrance of any port of France on penalty of confiscation, onely one little creek being allotted them where are no houses nor protection for their ships against an enemy, insomuch that an armed boat may seize on them. But I perceive here is no good to bee done, the *Mess^{rs} de la Manufacture* bearing too strong an influence for our obtaining any reliefe.

My correspondent in the army adviseth that on the 23th past the baggages passed the Meuse, on the bridge lately made there, near Viset, within shott of Navagne, a Spannish towne. The next day the King followed them to encamp within sight of Maestricht, & thence will continue a long march along the Rhine. The Elector of Cologne, intending to see the King, desired first that the ceremonies of the visit might be adjusted & P^{ce} William of Furstenburg was sent to Visit for that purpose. The Elector pretended to have the *fautueil* [sic] & that the King come out of his chamber to meet him & accompany him after the visit, alledging for reasons, that the Emperor treats Electors after that manner. But the King answers that the Electors creat & make the Emperours & that the King is made soe by none, that his Ma^{ty} never goes out of his chamber for anybody & gives the *fautueil* only unto kings. Moreover, that Gustavus King of Sweden¹ gave the Duke of Saxony,² who did eat with him, only a *chaise à dos*, soe that it is now ordered that the Elector shall meet the King on horseback in the field, an expedient to avoyd ceremonies. The K^s made a review of the P^{ce} of Condé's army consisting of 18,000 foot & 6,000 horse.

¹ Gustavus Adolphus (1594-1632), killed at the battle of Lützen.

² John George, Elector of Saxony.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: June the 4th, '72.

The day before yesterday arrived here the Sieur de Nerli as Nuntio from the Pope. I mentioned some thing obscurely in my last to y^r Lpp about S^r Robert Walsh. I am since informed as well from himselfe as others, hee & S^r Andrew White had intrigues with ye Dutch Amb^r, pretending for rewards to discover & execute strange things against the English, in soe much that ye Amb^r sent ye passe & a kind. l^{re} to S^r Robert, but these confederates falling out, S^r Andrew got possession of ye passe & has put [it] into Colbert's hands, soe that ye other is afraid of being imprisoned. In fine, they have both ye report of being great knaves.¹

To Lord Arlington.

Paris, June the 11th, '72.

In the Gazette that goes herewith,² your Lopp bath all the particulars of the Camp proceedings. The King hopes to have taken Rhinsberg, Orsoy, Wesel, & Burich by the 15th of this month.³ The *attaques* being very briske, many men are lost, one, M^r S^t Hilaire,⁴ a Protestant, & much esteemed in France, is killed; he was Lieutenant General of the Artillery. I have this account of affaires from Liège the 6th currant: 'Quant aux places assiégées on assure que les troupes sont déjà sur le contrescarpe de Wesel, qu'on alloit donner un assaut general jeudy à 2 heures après midy à Burich, que Rhinsberg estoit en partie brûlée et que l'Orsoy n'avoit encore que 24 heures de terme pour se rendre, et même j'ay une lettre de Maezik qu'elle estoit prise par assaut. Trente officiers reformez, estant sortis de Maestricht jeudy passé pour aller du costé de Tongres, furent rencontrés par des gens du C. de Chamilly, qui les tuerent tous à la reserve de 5 ou 6, qui demanderent quartier. Les Hollandois nous menacent de nous declarer la guerre, nous faisant la cause de leurs malheurs.'

¹ In cipher, deciphered.² The Gazette is missing.³ Orsol, Bürick, and Rhinsberg, on the left bank of the Rhine, and Wesel, Rees, and Merick, on the right, were occupied by Dutch troops. They defended the entry into their country on the side of the Gueldre and on the side of Germany (Mignet, vol. iv. p. 6).⁴ Pierre de Mormés de Saint-Hilaire died in 1680. Perwich was evidently wrongly informed.

Wee have had courier upon courier from Calais with news of the fleets being engaged, from the great shooting they heard ever since Tuesday. Your Lop has herein the sad relation of the earthquake at Rimini.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June the 15th, '72.

Herewith I send you a relation of the taking of Wesel, as you will see in my L^d Arlington's paquet a print of the taking the four places I mentioned in my last. Not knowing as yet where Mr Godolphin is, I must depend upon other correspondencies. Since the taking of the 4 places I hear Rees has surrendred & that the Bpp of Munster has besieged Deventer, & that the King has sent him 6 th^d men. Moreover, it is said by the Dutch themselves, that they doubt not the King's passing the Yssel because of the lownes of the water.

Yesterday a solemne procession was made here with drums beating, of above 30 flags taken in the townis surrendred, all the Parliament in their robes receiving them in ceremony at 'Nostre Dame Church' where they are to remaine, & this day a 'Te Deum' is sung at the same place for the new borne Prince d'Anjou,¹ the Queen having very happily been delivered of him on Munday at midnight. The victories at land, reports of such at sea, & this new birth, concentring in one criticall time, makes a great joy in this place.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: June the 18th, '72.

Since my last I have this following account from the army w^{ch} was on the 31th past encamped near Juliers, at a place called Roer; the next day the King went to Nuits, followed only by the mules & coaches (the charriots & carts being to follow at little stages) where his Ma^{ty} will see the Elector of Cullen; a detachment of 3,000 horse & 4,000 foot was made the same day to bee commanded by Mr de Turenne, the other officers following the King, excepting Mr de Lorge who is to conduct the remaining troops *à petit pas*. The 2^d of this month the King designed to passe the Rhine at Keyserwert,² thence immediately some place will

¹ Louis François, Duc d'Anjou.

² Louis encamped at Nuys on May 31, and remained on the left bank of the Rhine with Turenne, whilst Condé pitched on the right near the town of

bee invested & the maske will then bee taken off as to the King's designes, which cannot but succeed to his satisfaction & honour. They ad that the Prince of Orange is in Westphalia with 15,000 horse & 20,000 foot ravaging all that countrey, & that the Prince of Condé hastens as much as possible to the assistance of the Bp of Munster.

Mr de Koningsmark told the King that at his first Audience hee had a letter to put into his hands; his Ma^{ty} replied hee might doe it at that time *sans façon*, but the Amb^r answerd the letter was with his baggage, & its contents being offers & propositions of mediation, it would bee time enough after the *Campagne* to bee given to his Ma^{ty}.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: June ye 18, '72.

Since my last wee have news by a courier to the Queen of the taking four other places as Rees, Emmerick, Dotecum, & Weel [Wesel]. What follows is copy of the King's letter.

'Le 7^e Juin je fus à Rhinsberg pour faire chanter le 'Te Deum' pour rendre grace à Dieu de la prosperité de mes armes. Mr L'Electeur de Cologne me receut à la porte de l'église, me presenta la croix et l'eau beniste, il vint ensuite disner avec moy à mon Camp. Mr de Strasbourgh¹ y dina aussi. Ce fut un repas presque à l'Alemande. Le 8^e Juin je vins à Ausermer. Mr de Turenne me manda que le fort de Rees avait esté abandonné par la garnison à la veue des premiers troupes qui en approchèrent sans avoir tiré sur les nostres qu'un seul coup de canon et une mousquetade. Le même soir, Mr le Prince² donna advis de la prise d'Emmerick. J'avance ce matin de bonheure [bonne heure] pour haster encore par ma presence les ordres que j'ay donné dès hier pour le passage du Rhin. Il y a un pont volant, une redoubte flottante, et ces deux machines peuvent passer chacune deux mil hommes à la foy [fois]. On travaille, outre cela, à faire un pont de batteaux qui sera prest en 8 heures, sur lequel je passeray moy-même pour aller camper au de là de Wesel, et ce moment est arrivé un trompette de Mr le Prince avec deux hostages de Rees. Après les avoir entendu j'ay accordé aux habitants la conservation de leurs biens, et pour ce

Kaiserswerth. These two places belonged to the Elector of Cologne; he had placed them at the disposal of Louis to help his passage (Mignet, vol. iv. p. 5).

¹ Francis Egon von Fürstenberg.

² The Prince de Condé.

qui est des officiers et soldats de la garnison, ils demeureront prisonniers de guerre, excepté le gouverneur et quatre autre choisy [*sic*]. Voylà 6 places sur le Rhine et deux forts royaux conquis en 6 jours sans que nous ayons perdu un seul homme de nous.

'Au camp de Rees le 10^e Juin j'ay eu nouvelle en ce lieu que Mr de Beauvise, avec 600 chevaux et 200 dragons, a pris Dotecum sur le petit Yssel, et que d'autre costé avec la cavalerie, Choisel¹ a pris Weel. Il y avoit 500 h^{mes} de guerre qu'il a fait prisonniers, après les avoir entendu et accordé la conservation de leurs biens et privilèges.'²

This is all the present news from the Camp. I hear that Mr Godolphin is dangerously ill.

Since I wrote this I hear that at an *attaque* of Schinken Scans³ the P^{ce} of Condé was wounded in the arme, the Duke of Longueville⁴ killed downright, the Duke de Nogent drowned, the Counts de Vivonne & Guित्रy⁵ wounded mortally, & in fine, about 200 gentlemen slayne who were too forward to signalise themselves; the Duc de Coaslin killed, & 30 of the first quality in France are slaine in the attempt. It seems both officers & souldiers were too vigorous at first, insomuch that many are drowned by precipitation.

It is reported here that the Yssel is passed, but with the los of many thousand French, but I am now told all the losse was at Schenken Schans, the *attaque* being *à la nage* & about 18,000 men killed & drowned.

I must correct a mistake in my letter. The P^{ce} of Condé endeavored to take a fort called Esquin over ag^t Schenken Schans, the horse swimming over the Rhine to *attaque* it. The losse has ben very great & I hear the fort capitulated.

¹ Choiseul. See p. 33, note.

² The famous 'Passage of the Rhine' took place on June 22 (Mignet, iv. 9).

³ Schenkenschanz.

⁴ Voltaire (*Siccle de Louis XIV*, i. 397) says: 'La tête pleine des fumées du vin, il tira un coup de pistolet sur les ennemis, qui demandoient la vie à genoux, en leur criant: "Point de quartier pour cette canaille." Il tua du coup un de leurs officiers. L'infanterie hollandaise désespérée reprit à l'instant ses armes et fit une décharge dont le duc de Longueville fut tué.'

⁵ Guy de Chaumont, Marquis de Guित्रy.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: June the 22, '72.

Being this day at St Germain's, I had the following account of the King's progresse. On the 11th the King, being encamped before Rees, went with Mons^r to joyne the Prince of Condé about 3 leagues off upon the river, near the fort d'Esquin; and it being necessary that the Rhine should bee passed, a battery of 10 guns was made to favorise the passage. At the same time it is said that the Count de Guiche, without apprehension of the fire or water, swam over with ten cavaliers, & was immediately followed by all the *Noblesse* that were near the King. The Prince of Condé passed in a boat, at which moment three squadrons of the enemy made a discharge on them, notwithstanding which, they all landed & routed the enemy after having made two charges, insomuch that the Prince having pursued them even to the *barrières*, where were many foot intrenched, hee commanded them to lay downe their armes, that otherwise hee would have them all hanged. Whereupon they had layn downe their musquets & demanded quarter, but, by misfortune, the Duke of Longueville approaching another *barrière* with other cavaliers, with a pistoll in his hand (not knowing what the P^{ce} had reduced the enemy to) cryed out 'kill, kill, & no quarter.' He slew a man, wherby the enemy was obliged to discharge on the French, which killed & wounded many. The names are,—the Prince wounded in the wrists, which has occasioned his keeping bed, though the Doctors assure there is no danger; the P^{ce} of Morsillac¹ wounded dangirously; the Duke of Coaslin in the hand; the Counts de Vivonne & de Saux² wounded mortally in the shoulder; M^r Belligon, M^r Brouilli, Ayde Major of the Guards, M^r de la Salle³ & M^r de Renell⁴ all irrecoverable; M^r Dopierre⁵ slightly hurt; M^r de Meny de Montauban⁶ & M^r de Terme [Termes] hurt in the mouths. Killed are

¹ François, Duc de La Rochefoucauld, Prince de Marsillac.

² François Emmanuel de Blanchefort de Créquy, Comte de Sault, later Duc de Lesdiguières.

³ Louis de Caillebot, Marquis de La Salle.

⁴ Louis de Clermont d'Amboise, Marquis de Renel; killed at the siege of Cambray in 1677.

⁵ Léon d'Esparbès de Lussan, Chevalier d'Aubeterre.

⁶ François La Tour Gouvernet-Montauban, known as the 'Chevalier de Mesnil.'

The Duke de Longueville
 de Guitry
 de Mombisson
 de Teobon [Théobon]
 Bourir [Boury]
 M^r Tassé

le C. de Nogent } drowned with many
 Chev^r de Sallière } other gendarmes &c^a

However they became masters of the post which the enemy possessed, & most of their foot were either killed or taken prisoners, for as soon as ever the P^{ce} was wounded, the French fell on with fury & made a great slaughter; the place they passed was called Tolus.¹ The P^{ce} is at Emerike, & some believe his wound not dangerous; since when we hear that the troops, marching towards Arnheim they met a body of Dutch, whom they beat in to its ports, but not without the losse of the C de Plessis Praslin. Mⁿ Turenne commands the P^{ce}'s army untill hee bee well recovered.²

To Lord Arlington

Paris : June the 25th, '72.

From the Camp before Doesburg the 19th curreant I have this account: That the same day M^r de Bonneuil, Master of the Ceremonies, had received a letter from M^r de Grotius, wherein hee demands a passeport & permission from the King, for himselfe & five other deputies, to come & see the King. Whereupon His Ma^{ty} called a Councell & imediately after sent M^r de l'ompone to M^r Godolphin to impart the busines to him & to concert with him what answer to make, to assure him that hee would doe nothing without the participation of his Ma^{ty} of England, 'et qu'il vouloit luy donner le premier advis des avances de l'enemy.' However, it was agreed that the deputies might come, that they should bee heard, that, however, his Ma^{ty} would proceed to 'pousser les

¹ Tolhaus. The taking of Orsay, Rhinsberg, Bück, Wesel, Rees, and Emerick broke the line of defence formed by the Prince of Orange, who then marched to Rhenen to join the Count de Monterey (Mignet, iv. 8).

² For the list of officers killed and wounded at the 'Passage of the Rhine' see *Histoire Militaire du Règne de Louis le Grand*, by the Marquis de Guiney, i. 323.

desseins suivant son premier projet.' My correspond^t adds this expression, 'enfin voyla des gens bien batt[us], et on croit que le roy leur pardonnera aux conditions qu'il trouvera bonnes, tant pour satisfaire à soy-même qu'à les alliez.'

The C. de Dhona,¹ who commands in Doesburg with 50 companies of foot, seemed to bee resolute for the defence of the place, but because the outworkes are not very strong, it was thought hee could not keep it four days. On the 19th at night, the French began to open the trenches, & at the same time advice was brought that Zutphen began to capitulate only upon the sight of French squadrons that passed that way. Deventer is besieged by the Bpp of Munster, & the fort de Skenk by the M^r Turenne, who on the 18th began to open the trenches. There was much shooting heard all day, & it's thought the place may make a stubborne resistance having 1,300 men in garrison. The King sent out M^r de Rochefort with 2,000 horse to goe towards Utrecht. The Castle of Nimegue surrendered itselfe after a notable resistance. Aernheim, to avoyd being pillaged, would not suffer its garrison to defend the place. The Yssel is abandoned, because the workes could not hinder the passage. The Bpp of Munster does his owne busines; having pillaged Groll, *on se laisse faire, il travaille pour luy*. The Hollanders, suspecting M^r de Montbas² for not hindring the passage into the Isle de Bitau, have imprisoned him. The King thinks of demolishing Orsoy, Burick, & Emerick, & to fortify Wesel.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June ye 29,' 72.

Since M^r Godopphin's courier from the Army, there came one this morning early from the Prince of Condé of ye 25th, with advice of his being almost well of his wound & intentions to 'goe to Aernheim in 3 days to command his army. Hee adds that Utrecht & all the countrey thereabouts as Naerden, &c^a. hath submitted with desires that they might have no garrison. It's strange that in soe short a time his army should flow along with such successe.

¹ See footnote 1, p. 209.

² Jean Barthon, Vicomte de Montbas, had married Cornélie de Groot. Footnote to MS.: 'This man is of near kin to Grotius & was here some months before the warre, had severall conferences with M^r Pomponne & Grotius himselfe is also much suspected.' The word 'Montbar' is underlined in MS.

Doesburg made little resistance, Skenke held out but 4 hours, Zutphen never stroke blow, but I hear that before Doesburg M^r de Martinet, a Mⁿ de Camp, was killed, very famous for a brave souldier & an excellent pillager, which last article created a quarrell between M. de Louvoy & him. I hear the Elector of Cullen begins to be dissatisfied, thinking himselfe a little slighted. De Grotius is come, as I hear, to the French, to avoyd the rage of the people. The Earl of Sunderland will be here this night, but poor M^r Chudleigh ¹ is left behind sick of the small pox at Bourdeaux.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July 6th '72.

I could not write to you by the last because of my being at S^t Germain's about my L^d of Sunderland's busines, since when we have news, but it comes soe tedious & uncertain to us, that I am sure you have it some days before it can be sent you from hence. The last mentioned a rash attempt of M^r de Nancré, Governor of Aeth & Lieuten^t Gⁿ of an army, on the frontiers of Flanders in Pays Conquis, who marched all night, 14 leagues, towards Ardenburg, near Sluys, & in that wearysome condition, without any refreshm^t, made an assault, was beaten off, & almost all the regiment of M^r de Sourche ² cutt to peices; that Zutphen is taken at last, but that Nimigue, as well as Muyden, which has also had succours from P^{ce}. Maurice, ³ holds out stubbornly, 4,000 Spaniards being entred into its succour. The Duchesse of Anguien ⁴ is delivered of a son. ⁵ Card^l de Bonzi is gone for Tholoze & Card^l Mancini ⁶ is dead at Rome.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July the 16, '72.

Though it bee possible that your Lopp may have news sooner from the Army than through Paris, it is my duty, however, to give you what wee learne thence, least by accident your Lopp should not have received it otherwise.

¹ Thomas Chudleigh, Secretary to the Embassy to Sweden in 1673.

² — de Bouchet, Marquis de Souches.

³ Count (Grave) Maurice of Nassau, Prince of Orange.

⁴ Anne de Bavière, wife of Henri Jules de Bourbon, first Duc d'Enghien.

⁵ Henri de Bourbon, Comte de Clermont.

⁶ Francesco Maria Mancini.

I here inclose to y^r Lopp the relation of Zutphen's surrender since when, letters of the 8th have also informed us that Nimiguen, after a great resistance & much slaughter on both sides, had also capitulated, insomuch that upwards of 4,500 men are made prisoners of warre, that the Regiment of Navarre had been spoyled in the siege, & that near 4,000 French were slayne in the severall *attaques* & *sorties*.

It is added that the King left Utrecht on the 9th to goe with his whole army before Boisleduc (or 'Sherzoghem bosch),¹ which place having received a *renfort* of near 3,000 Span^{ds} (into whose hands the keys of the towne are putt), it is believed it may hold stoutly, it having always been esteemed one of the strongest places in Holland. The French are raising more men all over the countrey. On the sea coasts their militia is in armes, & the grand Provosts-Marshalls have orders to draw up their usuall quota of men & to march towards the conquerd towns, whence they are to conduct the Dutch & Spannish prisoners that they may bee dispersed into the severall prisons of this kingdome.

Since I had sealed up this I was advised of an accomodation on foot for the Duke of Lorrain. The propositions are not very clearly represented to mee, but they are to this effect, that the King shall keep Nancy & some places about it, & that the Duke shall have some lands in France in lieu of them, & his choyce of them. Lastly, that if the Duke consent not to this offer, his nephew Prince Charles shall enjoy the effect of them.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July ye 17, '72.

More men are raising everywhere & the Provost-Marshalls through all the Provinces have orders to prepare in order to the dispersing the Ducch & Spannish prisoners into their severall prisons. Here is a report as if the Dutch Amb^r was stopt on the frontiers of Spain in his way to Madrid.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July ye 20, '72.

Yesterday, by a courier from Turin, wee were assured of the Duke of Savoy's having broken upon the Genovezes, with a body

¹ Hertogenbosch.

of seven thousand foot, & five thousand horse, that hee hath taken one place on the frontiers that formerly belonged to him & was unjustly detained from him, and that hee had endeavoured to surprise Savona, but his designe was prevented by timely succours the Republick had sent into that place. There has been a long while great janglings between them, & the French mediated to reconcile their differences, which was soe well contrived as to break off the mediation pretending the *Republique* was unreasonable; since when the Duke has taken this conjuncture of time to right himselfe & this not without the consent of this court. This small rupture may make great troubles in Italy, many of the Princes there by alliance will bee engaged on one side or the other. The Spannish Ambassador is gone for the Army without taking leave of the Queen, her Ma^{ty} having refused him audience because of the ill satisfaction the King has conceived against the C de Monterey's proceedings. Molina pretends to disavow that hee had orders from Madrid to bee soe vigorous in sending assistance to the Dutch &, at the same, to justify his having done well considering the necessity. I hear the Prince of Condé is very ill, having the gout in his wounded arme & legs, which, together with *chagrin* to bee under the *chirurgion's* hands in this time of action, have putt him into a violent fever. New levies are making here & so much doe they want men in the Army, that I hear they give 5 pistols a head besides clothes.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July ye 23, '72.

In this inclosed paper¹ your Lopp will see all the late progresse of the French army. The last letters thence left Boisleduc, Neusden, & Bommel, besieged. Last night late came a courier from Danzick with advice thence of the 9th currant of the disorders at Warsovie,² which we find to be not soe great as was before represented, as if the King were made prisoner & an Interregnum declared. But this is certain that Marshall Sobieski came to that place with a body of 6,000 choise souldiers instead of the like number of friends that did usually attend him, & having broken up the Dyet, he, by an artifice, made himselfe master of the Arsenal, at which time the King retired into the Castle, being guarded by his friends, whereupon a certain number of Bishops & nobles came

¹ The enclosure is missing.

² Warsaw.

in a body to him & desired him for severall reasons, in order to the publique good, that hee would resigne up his royalty & abdicate as did the late King, but hee answered that at their election of him they made him swear never to renounce his kingdome, wherefore hee would not doe it unles the whole body of the Dyet should require it of him & discharge him of his oath; that the next day other of the clergy were endeavouring to compose matters, but it is here believed that, as soon as they shall hear of the Duke of Longueville's death, all these clouds may passe over, since it is no secret that the designe tended to the making him King upon his marrying the present Queen because of the other's impotency.¹ It is much surmised in this place that the C de Montereis is declaring *appuyé* by the German Princes. The issue may bee a very long warre & the ruin of Flanders.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: the 30th of July, 1672.

It is likely that this may pay my humble duty to your Lopp at Calais because the last letters from Bruxels left y^r Lopp still at Antwerp.

Last night the Queen went to meet the King, insomuch that by this time, I believe him to be at S^t Germain's, because a 'Media Nox' is ordered to bee made at Mad: Lavalier's² *apartement*. It is said his stay will not bee above 2 month's hereabouts, & that hee will passe the winter at Metz with an army of 30 thousand men about him. An *entrée en triomphe* is preparing for him here at the city expence which will bee very magnificent. His troops are dispersing into garrisons & quarters, 4,000 horse are left at Utrecht, as many on the Rhine, 2,000 in the Betau, & the rest on the Yssel. Wee hear now that the C. de Montereis begins to comply, & the present discourse is of an exchange, in case of a peace, of the late conquests, for Maestricht, Breda, Boisleduc, & some other places, &

¹ The great nobles were anxious to get rid of Michael Wisniowieski. They took the Queen and the Emperor Leopold into their counsel, and Queen Eleanora agreed to comply with their wishes if they would choose Charles of Lorraine, to whom she was greatly attached. But Sobieski opposed any scheme which would place the country under the espionage of Austria, and exhorted them to choose the Duc de Longueville (the nephew of Condé). Everything was ready for his election when news came that he was slain at the 'Passage of the Rhine.'

² Duchesse de la Vallière.

that Mr de Grotius is to come hither again as Deputy. Upon the late irruption between the Savoyards & Genovezes we hear the Duke of Bavière, brother-in-law to the Duke of Savoy,¹ has offerd him a succor of 6,000 men, soe that it is believed the Republick may have assistance from Milan.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: August the 6th, '72.

I have forborne of late to trouble your Lopp with my letters because the scene of all affaires was with your Lopp at the camp. The King hath been here these five days, attended but by few persons of quality. Hee was somewhat sensible of the fatigue & has reposed accordingly. The Prince of Condé comes by water as far as Metz, & will not bee at Chantilly yet these 14 days. His Mat^y hath ordered him to the value of thirty thousand pound sterling for his good services during this *Campagne*. The late promotions & preferments which his Mat^y hath made are to Marshall Turenne, the governm^t *en chef* of all the conquests in Guelderland, & his nephew, the C de Lorge, is to command under him, to which gouvernement since the taking of Bommel, all that Island is added, but of the place itselve the Marq^s de Resnel hath the command. The Marq^s de Rochefort is made governor of Nancy & all Lorraine; Mons^r Montauban² of Zutphen, & Doesbourg is given to Mons^r Villiers; and it is said that Mons^r le Tellier shall be Chancellour though the Seals bee continued in Mons^r d'Aligré's hands, but this I give little credit to as *chose inoüüe*.

Here passed by some days since a person of great quality in post from the C. de Monterei towards Spaine, but his busines not knowne; it is guessed only that hee was dispatched to give the Queen an account of his Mat^{ie}'s plenipotentiaries' demands at Antwerp. It is reported here that the Dutch have made a project of exchange in order to an *accomodement* with France by putting into the possession of her *Catholique* Mat^y all the places they hold in Brabant, as Breda, Boisleduc, &c^a. with the city of Maestricht, upon condition that ye city & province of Luxembourg bee putt into the hands of his Xtian Mat^{ie}, wherby a reciprocall convenience is pleaded to the French, Spaniard, & Dutch.

¹ Ferdinand Maria, Elector of Bavaria, married Adelheid Henrietta, sister of Charles Emmanuel, Duke of Savoy.

² René de La Tour du Pin, Marquis de Montauban.

To Lord Arlington.

[No date attached ; perhaps Aug. 7, 1672.]

Since my last a courier is come from Spaine with an answer that the Queen Regent & Councell had reflected upon the late demands that had been made for the withdrawing the Spannish garrisons out of the Dutch holds, & because her Ma^{ty} could not soe well, att that distance, declare her resolutions what were most convenient as well for the satisfaction of France as the preservation of her countreys, shee had sent full powers to the Conde de Montereï to doe therein whatever hee shall think fitt upon the place, with a kind of approbation of his conduct hitherto. The Councell, it seems, was in labour above fourty hours before this resolution was brought forth & severall debates on both sides struggled hard the delivery. It is hard for mee to make a guesse whether this pleaseth or dissatisfyes the Court of France. The latter appears outwardly, but from the active humour of the C. de Montereï it is naturall to believe that these people will not bee sorry to have occasions given them of warring in Flanders. It is still confirmed that the Imperiall forces are on their march, wherefore Mons^r de Louvoy is going to the Army to consult with M^r de Turenne upon the present & probable conjuncture of affaires, it being further assured here that the ratifications are signed at Vienna to a Treaty between the Emp^r & the States.

The Marshall Grammont is coming back to make his report of affaires towards Catalogne ; his son, the C. de Guiche, is gone back to the Army.

It is confidently said here that the Danes are sending some men into Germany, & that the Sweeds are reviewing their troops in the Pays de Bremen. But after all, it is the grave opinion here that these noises of troops from all parts are in order to a generall peace & not to come any ways to blows.

Since I wrote this, I received this account from Dantzick of Aug. the 6th, that a Polish army commanded by the Castellán de Pololie beyond Volinie, which was joyned with the Generall Hanenko,¹ & the Cosacks loyall being marched to the succour of the citty Human, besieged by the Turks, by Doroscensko, Generall of the *Cosaques* rebels & the Tartars, hath been totally

¹ General of the Cossacks.

defeated ;¹ and that *L'Arrièreband de la Noblesse*, which is ready to goe to the *Campagne*, will not defend Kameniez nor the other places in Ukrani [Ukraine].² The King was to goe the 12th instant to the generall *rendevous* of *Arrièreband*, which is at Sokal in Russie.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Aug. 14, '72.

Since I had sealed up my other letter to your Lopp I am pretty well assured of some intrigue not unworthy your Lopp's knowledge. The first is of a negotiation the Dutch have some time since managed with the Grand Vizier, foreseeing the approaching stormes, *moyenant* a sum of money not to fall on Hungary, that the Emperour's forces might not bee diverted ; that this was carried on with such successe as, when the French Ambassador had in a manner concluded a Treaty, the Vizier refused to signe it, & denied him *congé* to retire, soe that it is affirmed that hee is slip'd away privately. I gave your Lopp a large account in my last of the affaires in Poland, whence a courier came last night with advice that, notwithstanding all appearance of accomodation, the King will be at last deposed, that the person likely to succeed him is the Chev^r de Lorraine since the D. of Longueville's death, in exclusion to Prince Charles of Lorrain, for whom France has no small aversion, & that a Peace is likely to be accomodated between Poland & the Turke at the interposition of the 'Kam des Petits Tartares' & the 'Seigneur de Volakie.'³ It is thought the King will be gone for the Army again before the end of this month.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Aug. 14, '72.

I wrote not by the last post, because I had been some days at S^t Germain's & came thence but yesterday. The Baron de Ghent,¹

¹ This defeat was made by the Sultan Mohamed IV. and the Grand Vizier. In October 1672 Michael, King of Poland, signed the Peace of Buczacz (Oct. 18, 1672), the terms of which were greatly detrimental to the Polish interests (*Story of Nations: Poland*, p. 154).

² See *Recueil des Instructions données aux Ambassadeurs et Ministres de France: Pologne*, par Louis Fargis, i. 118.

³ Seigneur de Valachie. This refers to the Peace of Buczacz. See note 1.

⁴ Baron de Goes. See *Urkunden und Actenstücke zur Geschichte des Kurfürsten Friedrich Wilhelm von Brandenburg*, iii. 402-403.

who followed the King by order of the States, was lodged at a place near S^t Germain, but two days since went hence homewards, according to the countermand they sent him.

The King hath been harangued by all the Courts souveraigne of Paris upon his victories & returne, to which hee answerd with much modesty, that as to the triumphal entry they proposed to him, they might employ that money towards the beautifying of their citty, because hee would not putt the nobility to the charges they must necessarily bee att to appear in such a solemnity, besides that the enemys had defended themselves too laschly, & that his victories had cost him too little for to boast of them.

The *brouleries* continue still between the Savoyards & those of Geneva, in which the latter pretend to have had the advantage; but the last courier from Turin speaks of a desperate escape their Generall, with 500 men only, made out of Castel Viecca¹ through a body of 8,000 Genoveses. The Pope hath endeavoured to interpose & make himselfe arbitrator, but the hostilities continue on both sides. From the Army, wee hear that all things are disposing in order to the siege of Maestricht, for besides the other troops that have in a manner bridled up that place all this summer, the Marq^s of Rochefort is quartered there with his brigade of 6,000 horse.

The Earl of Sunderland & M^r Godolphin are gone this day to S^t Germain.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Aug. 18, '72.

Since my last here hath been little alteration in affaires. The fresh assurances of the Imperiall forces being on their march towards the Bpp of Munster's territories is the subject of the present discourse, in which case the King will goe suddainly for Mets.

Yesterday came a courier from Italy with an account of affaires there, how the Genovese had lately defeated a body of two thousand Savoyards, whereof halfe were slaine & many made prisoners. The Resident here hath made his complaints upon the irruption without a *declaration prealable*, & was answerd that this flame was not only contrary to the interest of France, but his Ma^{tie}'s inclinations also, of which hee would give sufficient evidence by the means hee would use for an accomodation. In the mean-

¹ Castello Vecchio.

time, the Republick of Venice hath designed the making an offensive & defensive league among the Princes of Italy & desired the Pope would bee the head of it, but hee refused it upon a pious allegation that, as hee was the common father & impartiall, hee could not side with any one party, it being his busines rather to salve & reconcile all differences.

Here is now no more talke of sieges ; that before Groeningen is raised & all the troops disposed into postures of defending what they have gotten in case the Germans should come downe upon them. The Duke of Lorraine is gone to joyne them, & some say is to command some horse he hath by his interest raised in Germany.

I mistook when I said in my last that De Ghent was gone away, since hee is here still, though he hath taken his leave in order to his returne.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Aug. 24, '72.

I have very little to communicate unto your Lopp by this post. A Councell of Warre hath been held at St Germaines since my last, of which the result is not publick, but it is no secret that orders are sent to Mons^r de Turenne by M. Duras to fight whatever bodys of men they shall hear are gathering together in Flanders or elsewhere, in consequence of the late powers sent unto the C. de Monterei from Madrid, as is M. de Rochefort to watch along the Rhine the motions of the Germans. The Duke d'Anguien made an offer lately to march at the head of 12,000 foot & 8,000 horse against the Elector of Brandenburg's army, which is to *rendevous* at Upstadt, but the King told him his person was too dear to him to be exposed that way. It is said that M^r Crequi is to goe into Italy with a little army to assist the Duke of Savoye, but I doe not believe hee will come into favour or that the King will protect the Savoyards, since hee hath declared that warre to be against his inclinations & interest.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : August the 27th, '72.

Here is arrived at Court a courier from the French *Envoyé* at Berlin, with assurances that the Elector of Brandenburg will doe nothing that may *choque* the French King as long as his armes

are employed against the Hollander, & that the league, into which the Elector is enterd with the Emperour & other Princes of the Empire, is intended only for the security thereof. However, the orders I mentioned in my last are confirmed for the watching the motions of the Germans, & in case thay undertake any thing upon the late conquests, or the territories of the King's allyes, the French are to fight them without expecting any further orders from hence.

The Chev^r de Nancré¹ is come hither from the Marq. de Nancré, Governour of Aeth, to give an account of affaires, hee having, as I hear, gott together a body of 30,000 men.

The Prince of Condé came this week to see the King & was much caressed, but it is believed hee will be employed noe [not] in any command of Army, there being a rub still remaining as to the passage of Tholus which troubles him extremely, especially now hee perceiveth busines can bee done without him.

It is much bruited here as if the Duke of Lorrain had amassed a body of ten thousand horse & was posted near his owne countrey, but this is not very probable.

Att the great ceremony of the King's procession there happened a dispute about precedence among the Secretaries of State. Mons^r de Chasteauneuf, who has the reversion of M^r de La Vrillière his father's place,² pretended to precede Mons^r Pomponne, but the dispute is not yet decided by his Ma^{ty}.

Wee hear the Genovese have defeated another party of Savoyards upon the mountains & slaine 1,800 of them.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

[Paris: Aug. 22, 1672.]³
Sept. 1.

Y^r favour by the last shall bee punctually complied with, as to the narrative, as soon as any comes into the presse. Herein I send you new cutts of the late conquests, but for news wee have none, unles it bee the taking of Groningue. Wee hear the Dutch fleet is at sea 130 in all, off the Ulie, and that the privateers of Zeeland had come up the river S^t Valerie within 2 leagues of Abbeville, and taken away some salt boats to a great value.

¹ Claude de Dreux.

² See p. 46.

³ Endorsed at back of MS. with this date.

You have the Chev^r de Rohan¹ with you ere this, he having avoyded the being brought before the Marshalls of France for giving (or boasting) the *coup de canne* to the Chev^r de Lorraine. I know not how long or short my stay may bee here.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Sep. 7, '72.

I have yours of the 22th past to acknowledge, & hope you receive mine punctually. Here is nothing of news at Court. We hear that Marshall Turenne has passed the Rhine into the Pays de Clèves with 24,000 men to watch the motions of the Germans, & hath orders to ravage all over that countrey. Some will have it that the Peace² is by this time made between the Genovese & Savoyards, & others say that 8,000 men are to be sent from hence to assist the latter. The King is now at Versailles but the Court is very thinne, no man of any worth, excepting Princes of the blood, daring to shew themselves from the Army. Here is in towne a regiment of disbanded Irish officers without any money to carry them back.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Sep. 10th, '72.

The Germans being thought to bee in earnest, it is believed the bloquing of Maestricht will bee slack'ned, & all those troops, as I hear, are ordered to follow Mons^r de Turenne. The French *Envoyé* follows the motions of the Brandenburg forces & hath sent the Elector's answer, that what hee did was according to the constitutions of the Empire for its preservation, & against some of its members that had violated & acted contrary to its interest, of which I hear the Bp. of Munster is somewhat apprehensive, & hath sent to Vienna to endeavour an *accomodement* as to his particular. The Empereur declares his reason for arming to bee against infringings on the Empire, but after all it is doubtfull whether those forces will hazard themselves in a fight against the French or attract therby such a powerfull force into their bowells.

¹ Louis, Chevalier de Rohan, youngest son of Louis VII. de Rohan, Prince de Guéméné, born 1635, executed 1674. 'Il était,' according to La Fare, 'l'homme le mieux fait de son temps et de la plus grande mine.'

² For the terms of peace proposed by the French Envoy (Monsieur Gaumont) see *London Gazette*, dated September 14, 1672.

Here was the last week a complaint against the Governor of Namur for having stopped some French boats laden with provisions, wherupon M^r de Varenne was sent to the C. de Monterey, but the busines being examined on the place, it was found a vanity & a report of noe foundation.

Your Lopp, I presume, hath heard from Spaine how at the Duke of Veragua's¹ imbarcation on the Armada hee had orders to open his instructions after hee should bee some leagues at sea. I hear since they bore, that hee should sayle towards the coast of Flanders, but this is not soe probable as his being to protect their India returne fleet on their way home.

Herewith I send your Lopp a narrative of the difference between Savoy & Geneva.²

Yesterday I saw a letter from De Witte. He wrote to a friend of his in this place wherein hee mentions the demission of his charge of Pensionar, & the preamble is thus :—The suddain surprise of the Towns on the Rhyne, the enemies breaking through the Yssel, & the totall losse of the province of Guelderland, Utrecht, & Overysse, without any considerable resistance & by an unheard of *lascheté* & cowardice, if I may not also use the word treachery, hath confirmed mee more & more in the opinion & truth of what was formerly sayd of ye *Republiques* of Rome. '*Prospera omnes sibi vendicant, adversa uni imputantur,*' to that degree that I find the Batavians will not only lay all their misfortunes & disasters on my shoulders, but that they are in a manner satisfied with my being massacred, as far as lay in the power of those four armed men that sett upon mee, although by God's great goodnesse I am recovered of my wounds. And among all the other magistrates who had any direction in affaires, their hate falls principally on mee, although I was but their servant, which is the reason I have given up my charge, &c^a.

There coming a great clamour from Diepe of the poverty of those people for want of fishing, the Sieur Rompf, formerly agent for the States, & now for the Prince of Orange, was desired from Court to obtaine of his H^{se} 150 passeports for as many vessells to fish for herrings, &c^a.

¹ D. Pedro Manuel Colon de Portugal y Sandoval, Duc de Veragua et de la Vega.

² The cause of the differences between Savoy and Geneva was a dispute about the frontier towns (see *London Gazette*, 1672).

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Sep. 22, '72.

Yesterday brought me the honour of two from you of the 5th, rejoicing much at that the L^{ds} Comm^{rs} are pleased to doe me as to the commission of which I attribute much to your kindnesse, & therefore give my humble thanks, but I wonder at their naming Mr H. Thynne¹ to be joyned with me who has been in Eng^d these two months & is now with Mr Scry^c Coventry.² Wherefore I have written to S^r Rob Howard that a new commission bee issued out of the Excheq^r nominating some other person on the place here, as S^r William Pulteney³ (who lodges at my house), or S^r Thomas Clarges.⁴ *Au reste*, you may bee sure I shall have all the care imaginable to discharge myselfe herein, as I ought in duty.

By the next, I hope to transmit to you a copy of the late Treaty concluded between France & Sweden for 10 years,⁵ as also some papers that concerne the present dispute between Savoy & Geneva. Wee hear that Marshall Turenne hath sent circular letters to the Princes of the Empire advising them not to assist the Dutch, with threats of falling on them in case they doe, & that if their arming were only for the security of the Empire & not for the annoying the King's allies or assisting his enemys, they need apprehend nothing from his passing the Rhine.

It is said that Mons^r de Vitry,⁶ Mr d'Anjou,⁷ & Mr de Vaubrun are to goe towards Germany upon negotiations. Orders are given here for the raising 5,000 horse & 15,000 foot, the armies being much mouldred away.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Oct 5, [1672].

Last night came hither the Countes of Northumberland, but her stay will bee very short. It is said the M^{ll} Turenne hath

¹ Henry Frederick Thynne, Clerk of the Privy Council.

² Henry Coventry (1619-1686), Secretary of State, third son of Thomas, first Lord Coventry, and brother-in-law of Anthony Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury.

³ A distinguished Member of Parliament, and grandfather of the first Earl of Bath.

⁴ Son of John Clarges, a farrier in the Savoy, Strand.

⁵ Treaty of alliance between France and Sweden, signed July 4, 1672.

⁶ François Marie de l'Hôpital, Marquis, later Duc de Vitry.

⁷ See p. 209, n. 3.

orders to make the Elector of Brandenburg withdraw his troops or immediately to fight them.

Yesterday went hence a person sent to Court by the Grand Marshall & nobility of Poland.¹ M^r de Pomponne gave him letters for the Grand M^l, for his lady; & a generall one to the nobility, with this particular at parting: 'You come & make propositions & demand a King of us; have you not a King already?'

The Connestable de Colonna² is removed, by order, from the convent of Lys to that of Reims. I wonder I hear no more of the commission from S^r Rob. Howard, because the time expires.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: October the 8th, '72.

As long as I stay here you shall be troubled with my letters, though in truth my being here signifies little more than great expence, wherfore I hope my L^d of Arlington will please to send me his orders what I am to doe. The Ministèrs are now at worke for the raising more money, & they talke of a great tax to bee laid on this citty *par toise* for the maintenance of fourty thousand men. In the meantime, all the *fauvourbourgs* on this side are incorporated in the citty, the gates being pulled downe that separated them, to the end that all trades compound with the King for their freedomes, which will raise a vast sum of money. Before this, I presume you have heard of S^r And. White's disgrace & his being sent prisoner towards Calais. The person that took him had 600 *louis* for his pains, though really I believe all hee was capable of doing could not signify six pence of the money. I suppose it is upon an old account I gave my L^d of Arlington notice of three months agoe, about his & S^r Rob: Walsh having proposed great matters to the Dutch Amb^{rs}, & a passeport hee sent them to that effect, wherein one betrayed the other, S^r Rob. discovering to Eng^d, & S^r And. to France, only as I suppose by an Irish trick to get reward from both.³ We hear the French army beyond the Rhine is much incomodod by reason of the present season. Mr. Vernon is here, and leaves in a few days.

¹ The Poles were still trying to get rid of Michael Wisniowieski.

² Marie Mancini, Constable Colonna.

³ See letter dated June 4, 1672.

*To Lord Arlington.*Paris : Octob^r 12th, '72.

Upon advice from the army of the Germans' intentions to take up their winter quarters near Cologne, his Ma^{ty} has ordered his troops *de sa maison* to bee in a readinesse to march in three days, & last night the Prince of Condé, coming from S^t Germain, gave out he was to goe in six days, the King himselfe having resolved to passe the winter at Mets. Here is news also of some skirmish between the French & Germans at a certain passage, wherein the former had not the better. The league is now finally concluded at Brunswick between the Emperour, the Electors of Ments, Treves, Saxony, & Brandenburg, & the Dukes of Brunswick, Hesse Cassel,¹ & Saxlavenburg,² into which alliance the King of Denmarke is also entered, & from it they suddainly expect a body of thirty thousand men to what they have already.³ The Prince of Condé has demanded troops for the defence of Burgundy, it being not impossible that the breach may come in that way as the most open. The Amb^r is gone this day to S^t Germain with M^r Saville.

*To Lord Arlington.*Paris : May the 6th, '73.

I am not yet soe well settled as to come into the old track of intelligence.⁴ I can only acquaint y^r Lop with the Conde de Molina having left this place, & a report, I suppose, of his framing as if all the English concernes in Spaine were seised on, but I presume hee is mistaken & meant it for a declaracō made by that Court, wherby all persons interested in the plate fleet should

¹ See p. 106, n. 5.² Julius Francis, Duke of Saxlavenburg.

³ By the Treaty of Cologne, 1672, Spain and the Elector of Brandenburg had promised to help the Dutch, but Brandenburg, feeling too feeble to do anything against Louis, had formed an idea of a league between the Emperour, the King of Denmark, the Dukes of Lunenburg, the Landgrave of Hesse, and all the German Princes who were alarmed at Louis's ambition. The Emperour and the Elector of Brandenburg had made a treaty on June 23, 1672, to defend themselves against France. This violated the treaty of November 1671, by which Leopold had promised Louis to remain neutral (Mignet, vol. iv. p. 76). See Koch and Schoell, *Histoire abrégée des Traitéz de Paix*, vols. i. and ii., for a full account of treaties during this period.

⁴ Perwich had evidently been in England from November 1672 until April 1673.

enregister their concerns at the custome house in order to the borrowing & diverting it to the publick use. However, the Spaniards are growne very complaisant of late towards the French, in granting passage for troops, &c^a. but oppose all they can a Peace with the Dutch.

The Treaty with Brandenburg is finally concluded, wherby the Elector is to have all the townes belonging to him restored againe, as particularly Wesel, besides a sum of money, w^{ch} last circumstance bears as if something extraordinary were expected from him.¹

Here is a rumour of the Emperour's designe to marry in the House of Bavière, as also that the Arch Duchesse had declared she would not have him, but y^r Lopp has better informacōn of these matters for the place.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: May the 20th, '73.

On Thursday last Monsieur went hence *en relais*, lay that night at Amiens, & makes great hast to bee with the King, who sent for him by a Courier. The letter mentioned 'qu'il pourroit avoir part a ses deliberations et a ses entreprises. s'il le joignoit le 20^e de ce mois.' The Courier went in all diligence towards Madrid, & it is said that he carries orders to Mous^r Villards to retire from that Court.

Letters from the 16th, from Courtray, advise the King's being arrived there that day & intended to make a review of all his troops on Munday the 22th near that place, which are to consist of fourty *bataillons* of 600 men each, & of 75 squadrons of horse of 300 horse in each; in all 24,000 foot & 22,500 horse.

His Ma^{ty} hath received news of the Holanders having blowne up all the outworkes of their townes in Brabant, as Maestricht, Breda, & Boisleduc, & that the Spaniards were retiring out of those places.

I have many letters from Vienna by the last Courier, wherein noe mention at all is made of the match lately spoken of between

¹ A treaty between the Elector and Louis, made April 10, by which the Elector agreed to give no further help to the Dutch. Louis was beginning to draw off the German Princes from the Dutch cause.

the Emp^r & the Arch Duchesse, but rather that hee is to marry elsewhere.¹

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: May ye 31st, '73.

In a *pacquet* that goes herewith to Mr Richards, I suppose your Lopp will have all the news from the camp at Landeghent, since the date of w^{ch} letters, wee have fresh advice that Monsieur's passing the Lys with ten thousand men, was only to amuse, hee having orders sent him to returne on the 28th; that Mons^r de Rochefort hath passed Lesiau with 6,000 men & artillery, as some believe in order to the siege of Breda, or Maestricht, but others imagine hee may passe near Bruxells, there having already been some little hostilities between the French & Spaniards. Mons^r de Hautefeuille,² Amb^r from Maltha, as hee passed the Lys with six hundred horse, fell upon a Regiment of Spaniards who were marching towards a considerable post; hee made about 15 prisoners & about the like number were killed, with the losse only of one Page.

Mons^r de Turenne continues still near Ham because hee hears the Imp^l forces are moving. Hee expects a *renfort* of 12,000 men from the Duke of Bavaria, although his army consists of 38 thousand men. M^r de Gremouville hath orders to expostulate with the Emperour upon his being soe much concerned for the Dutch the last year, & to threaten a strange story about Bohemia in case hee bee troublesome this *Campaña*. Here are people sent on purpose from Vienna to buy wedding garments for the Emp^r, & others for a Princesse, & a certain place is named in Austria for the marriage, but I cannot say very positive it is the Archduchesse of Inspruck, because there are soe many German matches proposed; it may bee to amuse.

The Prince of Condé writes word that hee begins to bee on his leggs again, & hoped on the 29th (the day the King decamps also) to bee on horseback upon a great enterprise.

The French India fleet is not yet arrived, & the persons concerned are in some apprehension least the Dutch have snapped them on the way.

¹ Leopold of Austria, 1640–1705, married (1) Marguerite Teresa, daughter of Philip IV. of Spain, who died in 1673; (2) Claudia Felicitas, daughter of Ferdinand Charles, Archduke of Tyrol Innsbruck, who died in 1676; (3) Elconora Maddalene, daughter of Philip William, Palatine of Neuberg.

² Etienne Texier, Chevalier d'Hautefeuille.

*To Lord Arlington.*Paris : June the 3^d, '73, S.N.

I should not have given your Lopp any trouble by this Post had not Madam given me a just occasion by her being deliverd of a son ¹ this night. Shee did soe lament Monsieur's absence that in 3 days shee would not eat and would have been more disconsolate had shee brought a daughter. The joyfull news will find Monsieur in the trenches before Maestricht, a Courier just now passing by here with the advice of the Prince of Condé's having formally besieged that place and that the King intended to bee encamped there on the 5th currant.

Your Lopp will see in the Gazette an account of his march, & I believe all that passes there comes sooner to y^r Lopp's hands than through this place.

My Lord of Sunderland hath been abroad, & I believe may bee going in four or five days.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : June 9th, '73.

Yesterday I received the honour of one from y^r Ex^{co} w^{ch} left you at Antwerp. I cannot give you soe good an account of my L^d of Sunderland's being any way advanced towards the place of Treaty, his Ex^{co} not designing to leave us yet these 4 or 5 days. Wee have here no manner of news, but are gaping after some from the camp dayly, the Courier being come back who was dispatched lately into Spain, with some demands, & gone in hast to the Army. Wee cannot devine what answer hee bears, but believe that in the present conjuncture, they study nothing but complaisance in every point to avoyd any trouble they might otherwise expect. From Tangier we hear of a very advantageous Treaty ² made with Gayland ³ with large allowance of limitts.

¹ Alexandre Louis, Duc de Valois (1673-1676).

² See Tangier State Papers, Nov. 16, 1672.

³ The Moorish chief. For account of Gayland see *History of the Second Queen's, now the Royal West Surrey Regiment*, by Col. J. Davis, vol. i., Appendix B.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : June the 10th, '73.

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The last advice from the Army left it at Vossem, marching towards Maestricht, the C^{ts} de Montal & de Lorge having already invested that place, & the King himselfe designing to bee there as yesterday. When the Camp was at Affleic within a league of Bruxells, the Countesse of Monterei sent Dⁿ Emanuel de Lira to compliment his Ma^{ty}, with assurances that her husband had orders from Spaine to give his M. X. Ma^{ty} what passage hee should desire in Flanders & withall to acquaint the King that the s^t Countesse, as well as severall ladies of quality there, could not but bee alarmed at the approach of soe great an Army, with the disorders that attend it, & their apprehensions had been greater were his Ma^{ty} not at the head of it to restrain the souldiers' insolence. To w^{ch} the Kyng is said to have replied, that hee thanked the Queene of Spaine for her civility, & that, as to his Army, it was a very difficult matter to hinder some disorders during its march, w^{ch} hee would endeavour to prevent as much as hee could by the exact discipline hee ordred to be observed; that as to the person of the Countesse & the other ladys that are in Bruxells, the King had too great an esteem of them not to give them what securities they could desire, in case they desired to goe elsewhere. The compliment concluded with a present to De Lira.

The courier I told y^r Lopp of, who was dispatched into Spaine to the French Amb^r, is come back, & after having given a Pacquet to M^r Colbert, is gone towards the army, it is supposed with that Court's answer to some demands made by Mons^r de Villards there.

The French fleet of marchants from Cadix is come in at S^t Malo's under convoy of M^r de Martel's squadron, who is gone with it, as is reported, in order to joine with the French fleet.

The King has written hither that in Maestricht are 3,600 foot & 2,000 horse who are resolved to hold out the place to the last extremity, although the French think it a job of about three weeks.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : ye 13th of June, 1673.

By this time I presume y^r Ex^{ce} is at Cologne,¹ but at all adventures I send this to Liège, & least you might not have heard the good news by other hands, I give y^r Ex^{ce} the *enore buen[o]* of our victory at sea,² here coming a Courier last night, a person of quality, volunteer on board the French squadron, with an assurance of our having routed the Dutch after a fight of two days. Hee could tell mee but few particulars, w^{ch} were these, that the Holander, perceiving wee would take them at a disadvantage, came out to a regular fight, in w^{ch} Tromp,³ Vice Adm^l, & another Vice Adm^l, were burnt, 4 or 5 sunk, 7 or 8 more burnt, & some frigatts taken, that P^{cc} Robert's ship was much torne & many men lost on board her, & that one, Mr Hamilton,⁴ had his thigh shott off. This is all I could learne of him in hast; the further particulars I dayly expect, & shall be faithfully transmitted to y^r Ex^{ce}. May your negotiations have also good successe.

At the same time came surprising news also from the camp, as if Maestricht, Breda, Boisleduc, & Berg-op-Zoom should bee rendred up to the Xtⁿ King in order to a Peace. This particular y^r Ex^{ce} knows better then wee at this distance; however, it is written hither from very good hands.

My L^d of Peterburgh⁵ has orders to bee noe more Amb^r for the Inspruck match, the Emperour's silence giving noe consent unto it, but has some private commission to goe to the Army, as some imagine, to seek a French Lady for his R. H. Hee sends back his people for Eng^d as well as the Secretary of the Embassy.

The next news wee expect to hear from England is of the D. of York's being imbarqued with troops in order to a descent in Holland. I pray God give us good successe & preserve y^r Ex^{ce}.

¹ Sir Joseph Williamson, the Earl of Sunderland, and Sir Leoline Jenkins had been appointed joint plenipotentiaries from England to the Congress at Cologne.

² See *S. P., Dom.*, 1673, p. 313, for account of this victory.

³ Cornelius van Tromp.

⁴ Colonel James Hamilton. See *S. P., Dom.*, 1673, p. 313.

⁵ Henry Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough, 1621-1697.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: June ye 17th, '73.

Some five days since we had an imperfect account of the engagement with ye Dutch by a gentleman who was volunteer on board the French squadron, wherein these people accuse themselves of too much temerity, but however that the victory was signall.

From Holland, according to their old custome, they have burnt & sunk many French & English, but an ingenious sufferer from Middleburgh writes in generall, that the Holland^{rs} are returned in a deplorable condition, their ships unmercifully torne, & abundance of their men slaine & wounded, insomuch that their conster[n]a^{ti}oⁿ was beyond imaginac^{ti}oⁿ. De Ruyter has sent a Courier to Marshall Wurtz to let him know that the English & French had a designe to make a descent at the Walcheren, to the end hee might put himselfe in a condic^{ti}oⁿ the precaution required. Hee wrote also to the Prince of Orange, that hee had separated the English & French, & burnt & sunk some of them, that hee himselfe shifted ship four times, & that Tromp changed thrice.

From the Diette at Ratisbonne wee hear that the Sieur de Gravelle had putt in another Memoriall, demanding a categoricall answer whether they will declare themselves for the Emperour or the King, his Master, & that it was believed they would not make a favourable resolu^{ti}oⁿ for the French. The Emp^r has sent into Switserland to know their intentions in this conjuncture, & the Cantons have answered that they would allways favorise his Imp^l Ma^{tie}'s designs.

The last letters from Maestricht say that the French were making their lines of circunvalac^{ti}oⁿ & contravalation, & had ordered all the towns & villages in the Principality of Liège to work in them under pain of being *fouagez*; the guarrison has made 5 or 6 sallies by way of prelude for tryall, but had been allways beaten in after some skirmishes, wherein were some few slaine on both sides; the French hoped to open the trenches on the 15th; that they learnt by some prisoners that the guarrison consisted of 5 thousand foot & a thousand horse; & that they should find much difficulty to make their approaches, because the place fired vehemently upon them.

Marshall Turenne decamped on the 8th to quitt the territories

of Brandenburg, & instead of coming towards Wesel, hee marched strait to Wetzlar¹ upon the Lohn,² upon the advice the Sr de Gremonville sent him from Vienna of the Emperour's having ordered his army to bee in a readinesse to returne towards the Rhine under the command of Generall Montecuculi³ for the succour of his allies.

Since I wrote this, I hear of the King's being gott before Maestricht, with some part of his Army. Immediately upon his arrivall, hee visited the Posts occupied by his Troops under the command of the C^t de Lorge, & while his Ma^{ty} was making the tour, in a skirmish a prisoner being made & brought unto him, hee caused him to be released with this message, that if the towne did not resigne itselfe in 8 days, hee would give them no quarter. His Ma^{ty} hath *detaché* Monsieur with 9,000 foot & 6,000 horse, to post himselfe before Wyck [Wyk] on the other side of the Meuse. The C^t de Soissons is dead, much regretted by everybody.

Just now I am told, but cannot give it y^r Lopp for currant, that Madam the Marquesse of Montespan is dead at Tournay, in childbed.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : June ye 21^e, '73.

Little of moment has happned since my last, the working at the outlines having delayed the opening the trenches before Maestricht, into w^{ch} place the Count de Dhona is gotten by stratagem. The French thought him to bee of their nation till such time as, being near the place, hee spurred his horse & soe entered. In a former I mentioned a threat, sent to the Governor, of giving no quarter if hee yielded not in 8 days, to which I hear the Spaniard made this answer, that his M. Xtian Ma^{ty}, having the renowne of a generous hero, would esteem him to bee *lasche*, & unworthy the command of such a place, if after having sustained the siege of Valenciennes, hee should surrender a place soe well fortified, with a provision for a year & soe well manned, & that to gaine the more credit with his Ma^{ty}, hee would hold the place with resolu^{con} to the last drop of his & his souldier's blood. However, the French pretend to bee masters there in 14 days after the trenches are opened. I hear the Duke of Monmouth grows to an

¹ Westslar.

² Lon, a tributary of the Rhine.

³ Leopold Philip, Prince of Montecuculi.

extraordinary degree in the King's particular affections, & has one of the four bodys that beleaguer the towne under his command. The Princesse of Mecklenburg¹ has seen the King, soe that now her husband has no more a guard upon him, in order to her leaving his territories. It seems hee was complimented into a confinement, pretending that the guard was to prevent injuries from her relations, otherwise it were a little harsh to a petty soveraigne Prince.

I am in pursuit of a Dutch Anabaptist who has coyned disadvantageous news to us, & hope to obtayne his bannishment to the galleys.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : June 24th, '73, S.N.

The last advice from the Army of the 20th represents the French Camp much advanced in its works, being within a hund^d paces of the *Contrescarp*. On the 18th the trenches were opened, at w^{ch} they made near a thousand paces, & lost a capitaine of the R^{li} Regiment with some other under-officers. Three batteries are raised, the royall one of 12 gunns, & two others of 8 each; the compliments have been hansomely made on both sides, however, according to the regular proceeding of the French; it is generally believed that it will not be a *businessse à traïner en longueur*, though with the losse of some men. Some officers of the Crowne have made their compliments to the King in that hee exposed himselfe too much in making the rounds & running the same riske of every common souldier; however, his Ma^{ty} doth not desist from visiting the workes to compleat the renowne of being a great hero, as is Monsieur come from the siege of Wyke, to encourage with his presence the opening of the trenches. The motion of the Imperialists is diversly spoken of; however, Mons^r de Turenne keeps the course of Wetzaert to hinder any exploits. Yesterday all the English had like to have been embroyled in a quarrell against a sworme of Germans, who believe the Dutch gazetts to be infallible, but it was soon appeased when they found our gentlemen in earnest.

Wee hear from Rome of the promocoñ of four Cardinalls, as y^e Sieur Nerli, Nuntio in France; Guastaldi, Treasurer of the Apo-

¹ Isabelle Angelica of Montmorency, wife of Christian Louis, Duke of Mecklenburg (see *Histoire des Princes de la Maison de Condé*, par M. le Duc d'Aumale, vii. 390-391).

stolick Chamber; Bazadonna,¹ & Cacanalla,² all four creatures of the Pope & the C^d Patron.

Yesterday was burnt, in this place, a priest who had diverted himselfe with a certaine superior of a Nunnery & some of the Nunns. Hee suffered because it was knowne, otherwise the doctrine of those people is that a concealed sin is halfe pardoned. At his last confession he smiled when the Crucifix was offerd him to kisse, & soe hee dyed. Your Lopp will see in the Print how fairly I have represented the first sea fight, that the malicious spirits that are here might not infect the people with fables. The best argument the Dutch have hitherto given of their victory pretended is, that the Italian Astrologer had foretold the day of the fight, & that the Hollands should be victorious.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: July 1, '73.

It may bee that this will come too late to give your Lopp an account of the Duke of Monmouth's behaviour at the taking of the *contrescarp* & *demylune*, because the King of France sayd hee would give his Ma^y a relation of it himself. I can only add this circumstance my French Correspondent adviseth me, that after the enemy had taken the advantage of the springing a mine, w^{ch} blew up 60 of ours, & the disorder that attended it, & had retaken the *demylune*, his Grace immediately went *l'espée à la main* with his volunteers, & the Sieur d'Artagnan with his *Mousquetaires*, to hinder the enemy's socours to the *demylune*, & finding himselfe abandon'd by his souldiers, returned in a fury 'et leurs dit d'un ton ferme et de reproche: faut-il camarades que je vous monstre deux fois le chemin moy-mesme pour aller aux ennemis?' w^{ch} being seconded by his example, & the English volunteers that followed him, encouraged the rest so much as to become a second time master of the *demylune*, with the losse of Mons^r d'Artagnan, Sr H. Jones³ much regretted, & Charles O'Brian wounded. My correspondent adds, 'qu'il a eu une prètence d'esprit dans toute cette journée, et une conduite d'un Général qui auroit comandé 30 ans des trenchées, le Roy en a esté charmé, aussi bien que toute sa Cour,

¹ Pietro Bazadonna.

² Frederic Caccia.

³ Sir Henry Jones was commanding a regiment of horse for Charles (Evelyn's *Diary*, June 1671).

Sa Ma^{te} luy dit au sortir de la tranchée, 'je suis bien aise de vous voir après tout ce que vous avez fait; le Roy d'Angleterre sera bien aise de scavoir tout cecy : ' M^r le Duc de Monmouth luy dit, 'qu'il n'avoit pas essuyé grand feu,' sa Ma^{te} lui repliqua, 'cela est beau à vous de parler ainsy, mais nous scavons ce qui en est.'

My L^d of Sunderland, being ill again, has desired me to write to Sir Joseph¹ that he has no hopes left of being able to go to Cologne.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : July 5th, '73.

Last night this citty celebrated the conquest of Maestricht² with fireworkes & a great tintamar of warly musick, the King having sent the inclosed letter for a 'Te Deum' to be sung. The capitulacons were honourable enough on the Governour's side, hee excusing to his Ma^{ty} his not defending the place any longer, in that his Spaniards were most killed, & that the Dutch officers would not fight. It is believed now that Breda will bee the next scene, nay, some letters say it is actually invested, & that the Prince of Condé has taken Muiden at last. Much of the honour of the Siege of Maestricht is attributed to his Grace of Monmouth & the English that followed him, a truth spoken out of the mouth of emulation itselfe.

Wee hear strange stories from Geneva of the French having with a certaine number of galleys, after the chase of 2 Genovese Galleys & five *Pattaches*³ enterd their port, notwithstanding the fire, & taken them *à leur barbe*, since when, although they have force to match what hath attaqued them, they sitt still, & say they had better loose a little than attract greater inconveniences.

I also transmitt to your Lopp the lost journall printed of the late siege, least you might not have it soe particular from other hands.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : July 8, '73, S.N.

Since the taking of Maestricht wee have no certaine advice of the King's motion, but believe hee will not make a second royall siege, leaving the honour of the next to the Prince of Condé. The

¹ Sir Joseph Williamson.

² Louis attacked the town of Maestricht on June 10, and it capitulated July 2 (Mignet, iv. 147).

³ Small ships of war.

Queen, having been indisposed, is to bee this night at Amiens, & it is sayd his Ma^{ty} is going towards Dunquerque because the Imperialists doe not advance upon the Duke of Bavier's [Bavaria's] threats to stop their passage, alledging that such their descent would attract the armies of France on the body of the Empire.

By a letter from Marseilles I hear our new consull, Mr Martin, was arrived at Algiers, & the old one lost not only his charge, but made a fatall end of itt for having pistoll'd a Jew to death in presence of the King, before whom he was called for justice concerning a debt the s^d Jew demanded of him. Hee had imediately his head splitt in two for the desperate action & his body dragged about the streets.

My L^d of Peterburgh has been at Dusseldorf, & ere this is returned to Cullen, whence it is sayd that the C^t de Tot¹ is gone towards the French Court to interpose for a cessation of armes.

My L^d of Sunderland is sending his traine for England but will remaine himself here in private to drink some waters out of Normandy.

The King went not into Maestricht, as it was intended, to sing a 'Te Deum,' because a powder plott was discovered under the Church.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : July the 15th, 1673.

Since the great conquest, we have had very uncertaine advices of the motions of the French Army. Here is a rumour as if his Grace of Monmouth had taken a fort of the *dependances* to Maestricht but in the possession of the Spaniards. It is believed that in case the Germans come not downe, his most Xtian Maj^{ty} will returne to S^t Germain's about a month hence. The Queen being troubled with vapours, the faculty of Paris have sent five of the best Physicians to meet her at Terre, where it is presumed the King will make her a visitt, leaving his Army in the Pays de Treves to eat up the countrey, in remembrance of the Elector's having suffered german garrisons to bee putt into Coblents & Hermanstein. It may be also the King will putt a garrison into Treves itselke for better assurance.

The last advice from Italy left the Pope indisposed, & add[s] that hee had declared the Sr Sachetti to be his Nuntio in France upon

¹ Claude de Tott, lieutenant-general of the King of Sweden.

the promocoñ of the Sr Nerli to be Cardinal & Secretary of State.

The Genoveze are much troubled to have given the French an occasion of interrupting their trade by taking all the ships they meet belonging to that Port, & have resolved to send a supplicatory embassy hither, & another to the Pope, craving his intercession with the most Xtian King that no more acts of hostility be exercised against them.

The Dutch deputies at Cologne seemed to be so astonished at the demands of the two Kings that they would not come to the conference. It is very probable that the *Campagne* is now over, the Army being divided into severall quarters, some gone towards Utrecht, others near Treves, & a party remaining near Maestricht. Just now fresh letters intimate that the King, being informed that severall towns in Alsace had received Imp^l Garrisons, notwithstanding that the Treaty of Munster gave them into the protection of France, is turning that way from Mets in order to the asserting of his right.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: July 22th, '73.

The King arrived at Rethel on Sunday last, where hee mett the Queen. Thence hee goes to Nancy, where his Ma^{ty} will make some stay to observe the motions of the Imperialists as well as those of the Duke of Lorraine, who has designed to passe into the Franche-Comté, w^{ch} the Duke of Navailles hath orders to oppose, & troops are sent him accordingly. There are hott disputes at Ratisbonne & some will have them to be on the point of declaring the French to be the common enemy of the Empire. Marshall Turenne advanceth & has now 30,000 men compleat, besides the troops the Duke of Bavière is obliged to send the French.¹ The Sweeds are in the countrey of Breinen 24,000 strong; some say they are to act in concert with France according as the conjuncture shall require, but others believe they will fall upon Bremen.

Monsieur came hither two days since, to the great joy of Madame, who is mighty fond of him. The King told him, as he came away, that if the Germans came downe, he would send for him.

¹ Turenne was sent to Alsace to watch the movements of the Imperial troops and those of the Duke of Lorraine (Mignet, iv. 184).

Two Dutch deputies are gone to conferre with their Masters upon what the mediatours have represented to them, & to know with what offers the States will load them back to bee made unto the two Kings.

(PS) Just now we hear that Charles O'Brian is dead after his leg was cutt off.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : July 29th, '73.

Wee have very little news here, there being yet noe action considerable. The King is himselfe at Nancy to encourage the fortifications there.

The Duke of Navaille is marched towards the Franche Comté with 7,000 men, to hinder the passage of the Duke of Lorraine with his few troops.

The Marshall d'Humiers is encamped between Ath & Charleroy with a body of nine thousand horse & foot. It is thought hee may joine the Prince of Condé in order to the observing the motions of the Spaniards, who are drawing their troops together with intention to march towards Breda, where it is sayd the Prince of Orange is to meet them with the best of his troops. Some believe the desigⁿe is to goe over into Zeal^d upon the apprehension of a descent.

The Duke of Noailles is gone into his government of Roussillon, by order, to observe the Catalonians, as is the Marsh^l D'Albret gone to Bayonne for the same purpose.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : July 29th, '73.

I was yesterday honourd with one from y^r Ex^{ce}, but the letters mentioned to be sent with it, come not ; however, I believe I received the same from Bruxels seven days since. Your Ex^{ce} hath sooner, from all active parts, an account of what passeth, than wee at Paris. Our letters yesterday from England left the Blackheath Camp imbarqued & the fleet ready to sayle the day after. Some particular ones hinted that, at the Duke of Monmouth's arrivall, hee had the compliment made him of the Duke of Buck's charge of Master of the Horse *moyenant* a certaine sum to be payd ;¹ & this day I saw a letter from the French people there, that add a

¹ See *S. P., Dom.*, 1673, p. 475.

commission *in petto* to constitute the D. of Bucks Presid^t of Yorkshire.

The Span^{is} drawing some troops together in Catalona hath occasioned his M. Xtian Ma^{ty} ording the Duke of Noailles to repaire to his government of Roussillon, as is the Duke of Albret likewise commanded to Bayonne, a place depending on his governm^t for the like purpose.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : August 5, '73.

The inclosed from S^r W. Lockhart is better able to give your Lopp an account of the French Court than wee at Paris. The Elector of Cullen has dispatched a courier to his M. Xtian Ma^{ty}, with proposico^{ns} from the Elector of Treves, that in case his Ma^{ty} would not make a *degast* in his territories, as was intended, hee would not onely disgarrison the Germans that were putt into Coblents & Hermanstein, but oppose the passage of the Imperialists through his countrey, w^{ch} the King has approved of, & the Elector of Cullen guaranty for the execu^{co}n. In case the Emperour's army comes downe, as it is hardly to be doubted, his Ma^{ty} intends to give them battle in person ; it is believed even that hee will very suddainly joine Mons^r de Turenne.

I inclose to your Lopp a declaracoⁿ, verified in Parliam^{nt}, in order to the raising of vast sums of money, in that no processe at law or other acts in writing shall be brought into any Court of Judicature without paying for the prepared parchment & paper with the flower *de luce* mark. Your Lopp hath seen the like in Spaine. It is expressed for the extraordinary expences of the warre, but these people are accustomed to looke upon every new imposicoⁿ as a new inheritance. All the news of this place consists in new *régals*, comedies, promenades at S^t Clou & the pleasant seats hereabouts, as quiet & tranquil as if there were no such thing as a warre, the Presidents of Parliam^{nt} & the robemen having the day, now the swordmen are away.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Aug. 9, '73.

The inclosed from S^r W^m Lockhart¹ will excuse me from repeating to your Lopp any news from the Court of France. My

¹ See *S. P., France*, letter dated Nancy, Aug. $\frac{1}{11}$, '73.

Lord of Peterburgh went hence yesterday, & at the same nick of time, I had a message from S^r Bernard Guascon¹ giving mee a *rendevous* to-morrow two leagues out of towne, which makes mee believe he will goe strait for England without passing through this citty. With the news book, I enclose another Print, to undeceive Father Patrick in a miracle hee went on purpose to see at Troys, of a woman's subsisting many years on nothing but the sacrament, of w^{ch} I remember hee made great remarks.² It seems the Bishop began to suspect & discovered the cheat, of which he has made the narrative.

Monsieur Colbert gave a great *regal* to Monsieur, Madame, the Duchesse of Guise,³ & c^a. on Thursday last. I was yesterday to wayt upon him, as I usually doe twice a week, to receive his commands. Either all things are under a very strict secrecy as to the present conjuncture, or noe fixed resolutions are taken, for all matters & motions appear either very mysticall or uncertaine. My Lord of Sunderland prepares himselfe for England.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Aug. 12, '73.

This place is very insipid as to news. All we have is in the Prints I send y^r Ex^{co}. If I knew in how many days you received y^r letters from England, I could guesse whether news thence might come sooner or later this way, & time it accordingly. In two days the Earl of Peterburgh goes for Italy to mannage the matter in a manner concluded on, as to a match with the Princesse of Modena.⁴ My private letter from Eng^d tells me that my L^d Treasurer⁵ [is] not onely very sick in body, but in danger of the quality itselfe sooner than hee expected, *quatinus* the charge, & that my L^d Chancellor⁶ had been indisposed. My L^d of Sunderland is in a dispute with himselfe whether hee shall take the season of going for Courbon or directly for England.

¹ On his way from Italy, where he had acted as English ambassador.

² See p. 158.

³ Elizabeth d'Orléans, Duchesse d'Alençon, daughter of Gaston, Duc d'Orléans, and wife of Louis Joseph de Lorraine, Duc de Guise.

⁴ Maria of Modena, sister of Francis II., the reigning duke, and daughter of Alphonso d'Este and Laura Martinozzi, niece of Mazarin.

⁵ Sir Thomas Osborne.

⁶ Anthony Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury.

*To Lord Arlington.*Paris : Aug. 26th, '73.

His Most Xtian Ma^{ty} removeth this day from Nancy towards Brisac in Alsace, where his progresse will wast about a month or a longer time, according as the Imperialists move.

I heare that ye Spaniards endeavour all they can to obstruct ye marriage wth Modena, having greater interests in its allye than Eng^d or France, especially upon ye proposition, how improbable so ever, of a match with ye K. of Spaine. This is the oppinion of persons of great repute & intrigue.¹

Yesterday being the King's *jour de feste*, the Dolphin gave a great *regal* at Versailles, where were all the persons of quality that compose the harmony of this place.

Your Lopp hath heard, as I thinke, from mee in a former, of a new Imposition upon paper lately verifvied in Parliament here. I am since informed that the Parl^{mt} of Tholouze has refused to doe the like, at w^{ch} wee wonder much, for in the French air Parliaments are become extremely complaisant, in that they serve only to ratify the edicts composed in Councell.

The French are somewhat choqu'd at the Count de Montereis shewing Van Beverning a power to declare warre with France when ever he should think fitt, & ye Swedes begin to bee troublesome as to ye advance of ye French forces in ye Empire.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Aug. 30, '73.

Being yesterday to wayte upon Mons^r Colbert at his countrey house, in my way I made a visitt to the Countesse of Shomberg, where I was charged with the inclosed *paquet*; the other from Lyons was intended to have been sent by an expresse from thence, but coming by the ordinary Post to mee, I thought it might goe as fast as a courier from hence to London, there being very little difference as to speed, & I dare not pretend to send your Lopp news from the Court since you have also a *paquet* thence. As for this place the people begin to complain extremely of the new taxes; that upon paper, as I advised in a former, has been rejected

¹ In cipher, deciphered.

in the provincial Parliaments, & now 'tis believed the weight of it shall be taken off of particular persons (as only on proceedings at Law) & imposed on all in generall whatever paper shall be used, wherein I shall be somewhat concerned according to the dispatches I am obliged to make every day. There being a great imposition layd on all the perewig makers, a tumultuous body of four hundred of their wives hath been to demand *misericorde* of Mons^r Colbert, whereupon their shops are suffered to be opened again. The taking of Trèves, & the advance towards Coblents, makes a noise in the Empire. Mons^r de Fourilles was the Elector's proxy for some time, lodging himselfe in his palace & riffling all of value in the same manner as he did formerly at Nancy when the Duke of Lorraine quitted his countrey. The Imperialists have been on their march ever since the 18th currant, but the Marshall Turenne is posted so advantagiously on the River Main, back'd by the Elector Palatin, & easily to be joyn'd by the Bavarians, that the Germans will find some difficulty to passe further. Wee are in great expectation to hear the event of the decisive conference at Cologne. The scurvy Hollanders have possessed these too credulous people here with their falsehoods as to the last engagement, & I have much adoe to persuade them to the contrary,¹ but the taxes & surcease of trade makes them believe very easily what they in a manner wish.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Sept. 6th, '73.

Our letters from Court speak as if his Ma^{ty} would be here about the end of this month, the Emperour having in some manner satisfied him. All Alsace hath been in a *panique* consternation; the towns of Colina & Slestadt were at first something stubborn as to the giving passage to the King's troops but they have since given themselves up at the King's approach, the inhabitants being disarmed, & their canon sent to Brisac, while their owne boores help the souldiers to demolish the fortifications; severall of the neighbouring towns have sent to appease his Ma^{ty}. I cannot believe, however, but that there is an offensive league newly con-

¹ Mignet, vol. iv. p. 160, says: 'The sea fight of August 21, 1673, between Prince Rupert and De Ruyter (won by the Dutch) made the Dutch less ready to accept the terms of the French and English.'

cluded between the House of Austria & the Dutch, especially since their deputies at Cologne continue their haughtiness & arrogancy, & that the Emperour is much in earnest.

I hear the Marq^s d'Anjou is called back from his journey towards Modena.

To my Lord Arlington.

Paris : Sep. 9, '73.

The present conjuncture is soe very delicate that wee know little of certainty, resolutions being soe often changed. Some imagine the King will returne hither within two months, but the Emperour's army being on its march since the 26th of Aug., I believe his Ma^y will not be here soe soon; the Elector of Bavière has granted passage for the Imperialists through the Upper Palatinat, notwithstanding the pretended alliance with France. It is thought that the body w^{ch} the Prince of Orange has gott together near Bommel may be soon mett with by the Duke of Luxembourg. Every moment we expect to hear of the C. de Montereil's declaring warre, he having, in order to it, caused all of worth to be brought into the strong places.

Monsieur is to be here on Munday & in 5 days returns to the King. The Chev^r de Lorraine is almost past hope of recovery, the phisitions having given their opinion that his illness is composed of a languishing poison, w^{ch} is past the art of man to countermine, to the great disconsolation of Monsieur. Now it is said that Treves is taken, & designed to be demolished. The King has endeavoured to cure the city of Strasburg of their *pannique* apprehensions by fresh assurances of his having no designe on them, but only the reducing the 10 Anseatique towns under his jurisdiction, to the end the Emp^r may putt no garrison in them.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Sep. 16th, '73.

This morning Monsieur went hence towards the French Court from whence the King hath sent away his owne guards to joyne with Turenne's army. Some are of opinion, however, that after all, an expedient will be found out, *par quelque entremise*, to hinder the coming to blows, notwithstanding the great heats in Germany upon the taking of Treves & the other towns in Alsace. Madam hath been somewhat troubled to find the French not very much

satisfied with her father's behaviour in this conjuncture, as if he were in a manner wavering.

Old S^t André Montbrun is dead at his countrey house, much regretted by everybody, but the Chev^r de Lorraine recovers apace in order to the following Monsieur.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Sep. 20th, '73.

Last night we had advice by a courier from the Marshall Turenne, that being within a mile of the Imperiall Army, he rainged his army in *battaill* array in order to fight them, w^{ch} Montecuculi perceiving, he retired under a mountaine in some disorder, & the Marshall was then marching after him. The Prince of Condé, with all his horse, is gone in order to the joining of the Duke of Luxembourg & the retaking of Naerden. The King is yet at Nancy though he pretended to have removed thence without declaring whither. This citty wisheth much for peace, it being drained of whatever can be found of worth by new taxes, to the degree that a house built without the limits (of w^{ch} there are some thousand) that cost 800 crowns, pays downe 400 immediately to the King.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Sep., '73.

The French court is a little *embarrassé* upon the present alarmes the Austrian Alliance giveth it.¹ At this moment we imagine Turenne to be engaged with the Emp^r's forces, as well as the Prince of Orange's having encountred the Duke of Luxembourg. Treves has been very peremptory in its defence, the French having lost many good officers in the severall approaches, of w^{ch} I presume to give your Lopp this narrative.

The Governour of that place having made no answer to the summons sent him to surrender after the convocation of the little governm^t, Mons^r de Rochefort began the opening of the trenches on the 30th of Aug. about 50 paces from the towne, but notwithstanding the weeknes of the place, it hath killed a great number of officers, wounded many more, & about 500 souldiers slaine, but

¹ An offensive alliance had been made between the Dutch, the Emperor, the King of Spain, and the Duke of Lorraine (Mignet, vol. iv. p. 165).

the French hoped in two days to become masters of a place soe untenable. Mons^r de Rochefort they say is wounded; the Marshall Grammont is sent for in all hast upon some consultation of great consequence, & Monsieur goes away also upon the King's summons in three days.

From Court they write of a league being certainly concluded between the Emp^r, Spain, Holl^d, & the Duke of Lorraine, but this is nothing if no other Prince enter into it, as these people pretend.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Sep 23, 1673.

Because ye King of France's army is of necessity obliged to bee divided into severall bodies, as the present conjuncture doth require, ye K. of France maketh very considerable offers to ye Emp^r in case hee will quit ye Dutch interest.¹

The advices from the two armys are very different. Mr de Turenne pretends to have caught the Germans in a pound, & Montecuculi thinks he has been too cunning for him by some counterfeit marches, & pretends to bring his army to Arnstein & Coblents, without Turenne's being able to oppose it. We know yet nothing whither the King will steer his Court; some say he will send the Queen hither & that he will make a turne into Flanders, but his Ma^{ty} contrives his affaires with such secrecy, that hardly any of the Court know his intentions till the moment they are to be put in execution.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Sep 27, '73.

This day was sett by the most Xtian King for his leaving Nancy, & yet nobody says positively where hee goeth. Although hee ordered provisions to be in readinesse at S^t Quentin, it is believed that was only to amuse, & that really he intends to goe into the Franche-Comté to give them another visitt. In the meantime, the Prince of Condé amasseth all the force he can in order to some suddain enterprize & some will have it to be upon Mons, but he complains that though his horse be indifferent good, all his Infantry is composed of raw young boys. Wee long to hear the event of the two great armyes. By a gentleman come post from that of M^l Turenne's, I hear hee depends most upon

¹ In cipher, deciphered.

the English troops, because the Germans pretend their great advantage to bee in their foot.

Some Dutch ships have made an insipid bravado on the coast of Normandy & burnt a village, with the conquest of 10 or 12 boats laden with butter.

The Queen is expected at the Louvre in a few days, but we believe the King will not be here so soon, especially if a warre be declared in Flanders, as the Comt[e] de Monterey is obliged to doe it twenty-four hours after the Prince of Orange's citation.

I have received just now these hints from my correspondent at Court: 'l'on a rien appris de particulier, si non que les deux armées sont toujours au même endroit. L'on dit que le roy est fasché contre Mons^r de Turenne et que son chagrin est très grand, et l'on dit même qu'il est fasché contre Mons^r de Louvoy, sans toutes fois le tesmoigner. Le Prince de Condé presse fort le Roy de renforcer son armée, qui n'est presentement que de six mil cinq cent chevaux et de sept mil hommes de meschant Infanterie.'

If the King undertakes anything in the Franche Comté, he has certainly intelligence with the gentry, who are malcontents & will facilitate his worke, they being all piqued against the C. de Montereï, & friends to the late gouvernour,¹ who was disgraced by him.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: September 30th, '73.

Wee are yet in an uncertainty which way the King removes. He pretended to have gone to Toul on the 27th, but I hear since he retarded his leaving Nancy yet five days.

The Bishop of Wirtzbourg, Duke of Franconie² has declared himselfe for the Emperour, whose forces have seized in his territories a great quantity of provisions with their convoy of 150 horses as they were passing to Marshall Turenne's army, whereupon this Generall made his complaints, but the Bishop's answer was coole, that he could not quitt the Emperour's interest. Turenne has left his post near the Imperiall Army, & is descended five or six leagues lower on the Mein [Main], & the King has drain'd himselfe of troops to send them to his army. The Prince of Condé has written to the King, that in case his army bee not suddainly rein-

¹ Don Hierónimo de Quinones, a Spaniard.

² Joannes Hartmann von Rosenbach, Bishop of Würzburg and Worms.

forced, he shall be obliged to retrench himself, or retire to some of the great towns, because the Spaniards engrossed their troops with those the Dutch have sent them.

Ye King of France doth not sleep well, there being soe much *embarras* on His Maj^{tie}'s hands, his rage ag^t Mons^r Louvoy arising from his over positive [assertion]¹ with relation to ye present conjuncture.²

We expect the Princess of Modena within 2 months at farthest, as we doe also the Queen of France very suddainly.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Octob 4, '73.

The King is now on his way towards St Quentin, after having sent four thousand men to Mons^r de Turenne, six thousand to the Prince of Condé, & 2,000 to M^r de Navailles. The Empire begins to grow very troublesome, and some Princes thereof that promised neutrality are declaring for the Emp^r, as the Elect^r of Ments, and even the Prince Palatin of the Rhine inclineth that way. The *Suisse* pretend to secure the Franche Comté by agreement, as if Spaine should have put it into their hands for two years. Some particulars at Geneva, I am informed, have engaged themselves to furnish the King of Spain with a hundred thousand Crowns a month, for two years, but I know not upon what agreement, since the Republick in generall is not concerned.

M^r d'Anjou has written to some of his particular friends here, that the Princesse of Modena is but 13 years old,³ very little, & leane, w^{ch} is contrary to what he advised in his letter to the King, and is come to the King's knowledge.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Octob 7th, '73.

Wee are yet kept in the darke as to the affaires of the Rhine, all the letters from Germany having been stopt of late, w^{ch} makes

¹ This word is illegible in the MS.

² In cipher, deciphered. A coalition had been formed against Louvois, headed by the Prince of Condé and Marshal Turenne. (See *Histoire de Louvois*, par Camille Rousset, i. 510-514.)

³ Maria of Modena was born in 1568, according to Anderson's *Royal Genealogies*, so that she was 15 years old.

people guesse the worst. I believe that, without a pitcht battell, the Imperialists will contrive that Turenne shall remove, especially since his provisions of all kinds have been in severall places intercepted by the Germans, & the troops the King sent from Nancy to joyne that army cannot passe the Nacker,¹ because some places that have strong guarrisons from other Princes, have opposed the passage.

All the ten Alsatia Townes are now razed to the ground, I mean their fortifications, & Spire, the place of the generall assembly of the Impⁿ Chamber, is also threatned, as well as Worms. Strasbourg itselfe is not too much at ease, whereupon the suits have called an assembly of all the Cantons in generall, in order to some present resolutions in this conjuncture. The Queen will be suddainly at Vincennes, much to the joy of the Parisians, but we know not yet which way the King will take; some imagine he will, out of complim^t to Paris, passe three months here, but he alters his mind soe often, that nobody can speak certainly of his resolutions. I believe he will rather keep near Flanders. Here is a hott report come hither, as if the Modena match were in peices againe, but I can say nothing of it, it being sometime since I heard from my L^d of Peterborow.

The late tax upon the paper raiseth abundance of money, & maketh people pay dearly for their contentions at the *Palais*; money, however, groweth scarce as doe the inhabitants poor. Mr. Colbert hath been feeling the pulse of the custome farmers for the advance of 14 millions, but they complained even of their farms, because of the deadnesse of trade, much contrary to their being able to comply with soe great an advance. However they are endeavouring by their creditt to raise it, giving their farme as security for the payment by degrees.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: October 11, '73.

S^r W^m Lockhart tooke leave of the King at Reims on the 8th. His Ma^{ty} is at present at S^t Quentin, but we are not certaine of his presence here yet awhile. The Marshall Turenne's army & the Emperor's lye watching for advantages. The French commanded by Mons^r S^t Clas,² have had a skirmish, & brought off

¹ Necker.

² Jean Louis de Genouilhac, Sieur de Saint-Clas.

about 30 prisoners, but these are only small games, & in truth, hitherto, Montecuculi has shewed himselfe a very politick souldier.

I hear that our new Duchesse of Yorke sett out from Modena on the 2^d instant, but it is yet uncertaine whether shee will passe through this place.

I have seen this morning a letter from the French Minister in Switzerland, intimating that, at the generall Assembly of all the Cantons, they have unanimously declared to hearken to no Imperiall overtures, but to favour the French. This otherwise I could hardly have believed.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Oct. 18, '73.

The French begin to desire peace extremely, and I believe would be glad to have one on equall termes. The Parliament hath been yesterday to compliment the King, & therein seemed to hint how much a peace is necessary ; money is wanting, & noe commerce stirring, that the taxes were heavy to a great degree requires that, instead of new ones, that that on the paper were taken off.¹ Our new duchesse of Yorke is on her way from Lyons with a traine of 12 Modena gentlemen, & Coll: Dick Talbot² went hence yesterday in post to meet her.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : October 18, '73.

Since the King's returne, the severall bodys of Parliament have been to compliment him at Versailles, particularly the President of the Court of *Aydes* made a very fine harangue, but at ye later end, represented ye poore condition of his people, by reason of ye great taxes & ye deadnesse of trade, begging mercy upon ye apprehension that more will bee put upon them, with many wishes that his Maj^{ty} would make a Peace, & then take off ye tax upon paper. It is certain ye King of France, finding how affaires are at present, would faine make up a Peace, if hee could doe it.³

They talke at Court as if his Ma^{ty} was thinking to make a carousel against Christmas for his *divertisements*.

¹ In cipher, deciphered.

² Created Earl of Tyrconnel by James II. and made Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. (See *Les derniers Stuarts à Saint-Germain-en-Laye*, par la Marquise Campana de Cavelli, i. 93, &c.)

³ In cipher, deciphered.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Octob 21, '73.

Yesterday was the warre with Spaine very solemnly proclaimed all over this citty, after a long consultation held the day before at Versailles upon the subject matter of the villages the Spaniards burnt not farre from Calais, & the Conte de Monterey's having declared warre with France at Antwerp on the 16th. Whereupon it is now believed that the King will goe suddainly hence to be near the Prince of Condé (who hath with him a body of 11,000 horse besides foot) much to the grief of these inhabitants, in that they promised themselves some *soulagement* by his Ma^{tie}'s presence here.

Wee have no certaine news from the two great armies, three courriers of four having been killed by the way. It is the generall belief that the Germans have ordered their matters soe well as to passe the Rhine, notwithstanding what Turenne may endeavour to the contrary, in w^{ch} case they will come into Lorraine, but many accidents may intervene before such an advantageous project be put in execution.

Herein your Lopp hath the declaration of war.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Oct. 25th, '73.

The *penchant* of our expectations inclines most towards the passing by of our new Duchesse of York, who will bee within ten days at Calais, in order to her embarkation for England. Those who were present at the marriage, report her to be very beautifull, of delicate white hair, & of a very good stature. The warre or rather the *courre sus aux Espagnols*, was declared here four days agoe, & a gentleman is sent to Madrid, to call home the Marq^s de Villars (as is Molena [Molina] also retiring hence) & to present a letter to the Queen of Spaine, wherein his Ma^{ty} complains of Monterey as to his late proceeding, & the cause of what future accident may attend the rupture hee hath made.¹ Wee believe it may draw his Ma^{ty} from the repose & *divertisements* of the winter towards Flanders, where the Prince of Condé has orders to revenge, with flame, the burning of the French village on the frontier.

¹ The Count de Monterey had declared war against France much to the surprise of the Queen of Spain (Mignet, vol. iv. p. 215).

The late insult made at Madrid, on the Portugall Amb^r, may give a helping hand in this present conjuncture in order to the making a breach between those Crowns.

The ArchBp of Narbonne¹ being dead, it is thought the Cardinal Bonzi may succeed him in that function, though some will have the Card^l de Bouillon to bee a pretender to it.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Octob^r 29th, '73.

Yesterday wee had news of her R. H^{ss^e} having begun her journey from Lyons, but it was then in doubt whether shee would come by water as farre as Orleans, or come directly all the way by land. Wee expect her near this place about this day sennight. I doe not believe shee will make any stop for ceremonies, &c^a, but that it will bee contrived the King shall have a sight of her, as it were, by a chance *à la chasse*, the rather because some Princesses here have taken it somewhat to heart in that they heard her R. H. should have *chaise à dos*.

I was to salute his Ma^{ty} yesterday at Versailles, where Mons^r de Louvoy lookt very merry, upon the farther engagement in a warre. The discourse was there that, though Mons. Turenne has done exceeding well, Montecuculi has also managed his busines soe as to passe the Rhine, when he shall think fitt.

The Spanuish Amb^r Molina, since the late declaracōn ag^t Spain, hath been invited by M^r de Pomponne, & therein advised to order his matters for his returne home, & told that his Ma^{ty} was willing to give him an Audience of *congé* (which he hath since had), & that there shall bee an exchange of Ambassadors at the place on the frontiers,² where was the interview of the two kings at the marriage. Being to take my leave of the C. de Molina, he began a discourse upon the present rapture between France & Spaine, pretending to be a great friend to the English, & the stresse of all was, that he fear'd the Spaniards would suddainly break with us, as being in a manner obliged to it in their late League with the Dutch, in case his Ma^{ty} of England accepted not of some propositions that were to be made him by the Spaniards in order to a peace, & in a manner

¹ François Fouquet.

² Molina had been kept at the frontier to serve as hostage for the safety of the ambassador of Louis XIV.

pretended to pittie us. I told him, thereupon, that if they had been soe overseen as to bring matters to that extremity, I did believe they would take time to repent their being so overridden by the Dutch, & that I thought the Councell of Spaine would consider better of it.

Here is an *arrest* coming out for the raising the price of money. The silver coyne is to be raised proportionable to the gold, viz^t:—a *louis d'or* shall go for four crowns. Ye *pique* grows great between Colbert & Louvoy, ye latter being blamed to bee ye cause that an hon^{bl} peace was not made ye last yeare;¹ besides, Colbert has made an impression in ye King of France that ye other doth gaine by ye post, &c^a. two millions every yeare.²

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Novemb 1, '73.

Wee are in expectation every moment to hear of her R^l H^{sc}'s arrivall at Fontainebleau, whither the King has sent persons to invite her to Court, but it is not yet knowne whether she will come hither or goe directly for Calais. Yesterday, by chance, I saw Coll: Scott, at w^{ch} I wonder'd much, believing him to be in a quite contrary interest, but hee made a very fair affable story of his being disoblighd by the C^t de Monterey, & encouraged by the Prince of Condé, who sent him hither. He has been with M^r Colbert, who offerd him 300 pistols a year, w^{ch} hee tells me he will not accept of, & now pretends a thousand chimericall projects, as the going for Portugall, &c^a. They talk at Court as if the Prince of Condé were coming hither, leaving the command of his army to the Duke d'Anguien. Upon the inspection of what money remained in the *esparjme*, they have found 80 milions of livers extraordinary, not counting the ordinary currant of the King's revenue, w^{ch} amounts yearly to 122 milions; insomuch that his Ma^{ty} said lately, hee had enough to continue the warre yet another year, without taxing his people more than they are already. In truth, I doe not see how they are able to bear any new impositions, being every where drained dry, the nobility by their great expences, & the commonalty by the taxes, reduced very

¹ In June 1672 De Witt had sent a deputation to Louis at the castle of Keppel, near Doesburg, to consult about peace, but nothing had been concluded. (Mignet, vol. iv. p. 22.)

² In cipher, deciphered.

low. I received yesterday the news of S^r W^m Lockhart's being declared Ambassadour, w^{ch} makes me presume to renew my humble request to y^r Lopp to continue your Lopp's protection of mee, that if it be not irregular, I may continue here as Secretary of the Embassy, or otherwise as your Lopp shall be pleased to dispose of mee, as having no other dependance under heaven, but y^r Lopp's condescending favour.

To Lord Arlington.

Nov. 1, '73.

Since I wrote the other, I hear that the Prince of Condé is coming hither, & that the Duke of Luxembourg has orders to march with his troops & endeavour to joyne Marshall Turenne's army, with instructions to fight the Prince of Orange, if hee meet him by the way, & M^{ll} d'Humières is to command the forces at Utrecht. The Duke of Luynes¹ received a pleasant compliment yesterday from his Intendant of his Marquisat d'Albert, a frontier Towne near Cambray, how that the C. de Montereil had sent thither a message that they should depute two persons with an account of what cattell & goods they had, with all particulars, to the end that Montereil might lay an exact contribution on the place to save it from being burned, & that the Duke of Luynes should send his deputy to compound for his share.

Your Lopp hath heard of the ArchBpp of Narbonne's being dead, & that the King had given it to the Card^l de Bonzy, who is on his way thither; but yesterday a letter came from a person of quality there, w^{ch} intimated 'que Mons^r l'Archevesque se portoit mieux;' if he be risen againe the Card^l will bee strangely disappointed.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Nov. 3^d, '73.

Our greatest news is of the Duchesse of York's arrivall near this place, my Ld of Peterborow coming to towne the last night. I believe she will make very little stay, but proceed on her way for England with all convenient speed.

The people talke much as if there will be a peace very suddenly, but it is naturall to every body that what they most desire

¹ Louis Charles d'Albert, Duc de Luynes. Died in 1690.

they most discourse of. The C. de Montereil has layd great contributions on the sovereignty of Ardres, & all along the frontiers of St Omar, Cambray, &c^a, & the present heats are soe great, & the succours the Dutch depend on, soe much in earnest, that I see no likelihood of peace. I hear the Duke of Chaulnes came hither yesterday, being to goe into *Bretagne* to hold the States there on the 15th.¹

I send your Ex^{ce} a print, but cannot answer for its being very true, though circumstantiall. However this, & the Portugall Ambassadour's being horridly insulted on at Madrid, may, in this present conjuncture, creat new differences, w^{ch} will certainly be fomented on the side of Portugall, were it only for a diversion.

Here is nothing done at Court, but making conjectures what will bee the issue of the present broyles. The P^{cc} of Condé is expected here, the Duke of Luxembourg being to march with those troops, in order to the joyning M^r de Turenne, & if hee meet the P^{cc} of Orange in the way, he is to fight him.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Nov. 4, '73.

The vote of ye Parliament about his R^{ll} H^{ss^{es}} mariage hath made a great alarum in this Court, not soe much as to ye thing itselfe as ye appearance that they may request ye making up wth ye Dutch agst ye interest of France.² Ye Princesse goeth towards England in two daies, though shee went to bed without her supper upon ye news.³

The King visiteth the Princesse at the Arsenal this afternoon, & to-morrow shee goeth to Versailles to see the Queen. The Dukes & Peers will see her, but not salute, as is the custome of France, because it is not that of England.

On Munday she will be seen by nobody & on Tuesday leaves this place.

Just now the courier y^r Lopp dispatcht on Wednesday is come hither. We hear that warre is declared between Spain & Portugal, but this requires confirmaçõn.

He had been appointed the Governor of Brittany in 1670.

² When Parliament met in England on October 30, they demanded that the Duke of York should marry a Protestant, so Charles prorogued Parliament for eight days (Mignet, vol. iv. p. 222).

³ In cipher, deciphered.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Nov. 9th, '73.

On Saturday last the King made his visit to her R. H^{ss} the Duchesse of Yorke, as did also Monsieur & Madam. The next day shee went to Versailles to see the Queen, & now the hurry of visits beeing over, it is supposed she may proceed to-morrow on her way for England. Shee is of a fine stature, browne, & her face promiseth a reasonable share of beauty as she grows a little older, very courteous, & ingenious. As shee passed through Savoye, there being a punctilio in dispute between her R. H. & that of Savoye,¹ there was no interview, but the Duke showed a peice of Italian gallantry & mett her on foot, by the coach side, at a little distance from one of his houses of pleasure, disguised in a maske & in the habitt of a huntsman. He told her the Duke, his M^r, being indisposed, could not wayt upon her, but had sent him to desire her R. H. to rest herself awhile in that house, where they found a delicate collation, & the pretended huntsman wayted on her at table. The conversation was very pleasant, inquiring what opinion they had of the Duke of Savoye, &c^a. This done, he went along by the coach-side a little way, & soe left them. The vote of the Parliament made them start here, but they are ordred to goe on with what haste they can.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Nov. 15, '73.

Her R. H^{ss} is yet very weake, soe that we know not presisely the day she will sett out, & the news from England, that came yesterday, of the Parliament's having taken up the busines of the match a second time,² made them much disordered at the Arsenal, as it hath made a great noyse all over the towne. However, wee endeavour to perswade them that those heats will pass over.

On Sunday the Venetian Amb^r made his entry & yesterday had his Audience. Hee hath one roome soe well furnished, that it is the admiration of all people.

¹ For the details of the journey of Maria of Modena through Savoy see *Les derniers Stuarts à Saint-Germain-en-Laye*, i. 104-105.

² Parliament met again on November 6 and still insisted upon a Protestant alliance (Mignet, iv. 228).

The King of France doth every morning an exercise at the heads, with lance, saber, dart, arrow, & pistoll, but nobody is admitted to see him excepting some few intimates, soe that it is believed we shall have a carousel, & that his Ma^{ty} will shew his activity himselfe.

I had yesterday a letter from my L^d of Sunderland, w^{ch} I received with much joy, in that y^r Lopp was pleased to give him an answer favorable to the humble request I made y^r Lopp as to my staying here Sec^{ry} to the Embassy, whereof I hope to acquitt myselfe soe well, as to vigilance & fidelity, that y^r Lopp may have no cause to disowne mee.¹

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Novemb 25th, '73.

On Thursday morning her R^h H^{ssc} left this place, & by next Thursday, in all probability, will bee at Calais, if she be not ill againe upon the way. She has left a very good impression in this Court as to the sweetnesse of her behaviour & her comely presence.

Two days since, here happned an unlucky quarrell between a young English blade & M^r. Forbus,² governour to the Earle of Derby.³ The latter having severall times dissuaded M^r Meritt from seducing the Earle, it bred misunderstandings, to the degree that M^r Forbus was forced to use threats, w^{ch} produced two several broyles without much hurt, till at last the other called M^r Forbus out of his chamber into the courtyard, & as they were fighting, Mr. Meritt's man tripped up M^r Forbus, & soe exposed him to severall inhumane cutts on the ground, but none of the wounds are dangerous. The justice has secured Meritt in prison, in order to a prosecution. This I presume to intinate to your Lopp, because of the Earl of Derby's relation to my L^d of Ossory,⁴ that his Lopp may see how farre his care of his charge has extended, even to a corporall concernement.

Since the taking of Bonne,⁵ we hear that Nuys is also besieged & supposed to be taken by this time.

¹ See letter dated Nov. 1, '73.

² James Forbes.

³ William George Richard Stanley.

⁴ The Earl of Derby had married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Butler, Ear of Ossory.

⁵ The town capitulated on November 12.

The Bpp of Cullein¹ is retired to Maestricht, & his creature of Strasbourg into Keyserwert. News came yesterday w^{ch} was not overpleasing at Court, in that, it's said, 1,500 French horse, commanded by M^l d'Humières, have been defeated by 3,000 horse commanded by G^l Sporke. In the mean time, we hear that M^l Turenne has asked leave of the King to retire, upon some jarre between him & Louvoy about orders sent him by M^r de Louvoy, w^{ch} are disavowed by him since, because the successe answerd not the designe.

The French have made a little invasion in Catalogne, but were forced back by 14 spanish *bataillons*. The Spaniards are not sorry for this, because the Catalognians are bound to maintaine 6,000 men upon any invasion.

Monsieur, having lost some money to a great value to the Marq^s d'Anjou, has payd him in plate, as hath he two other creditours of the same kind, the first, because he is going for England, & Monsieur hath a maxime to oblige all French that goe for England as much as he can, since some time. The C^t de Grammont, going into the chamber of one of these who had a share in the plate, & seeing it served for use, asked if there were another Duke of Orleans in France.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Novemb 30th, '73.

Since my last, here have been certaine revolutions in this court, but of another sex, the Queen having thought fitt to lay aside all her Maids of Honour, & some say this resolution proceeds from a profound devotion, as if people were obliged to answer for the sins of their servants.²

The Resident of Geneva³ is warned to retire, because his Masters are soe zealous for the Spanniards as to raise men for them at their owne expence.

The Duchesse of Vaujour, *alias* la Valière, designeth this day, or to-morrow, to putt herselfe in the Nunnery of Val de Grace, after having seen her children putt under the direction of fitt persons, in order to their good educations.

¹ Cologne.

² The suppression of the maids of honour was probably due to the influence of Madame de Montespan.

³ Jacques Bordier, resident in France 1668-1684.

I have been desired by some English to gett their commissions from hence for private men of warre against the Spaniards, & such commissions have been offered mee in blank, butt I considered of the consequence that the Spaniards might, in the same manner, doe us ten times the prejudice with commissions from the Dutch, & accordingly refused the one & the other, especially because I have no orders from y^r Lopp in that particular.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Dec. 2^d, '73, S.N.

Wee hear that the M^{ll} Turenne, after having disposed his troops into winter quarters, will passe his winter here, but of this there is noe great certainty, because his Ma^{ty} sent him an answer to such his request, that his presence there were more for his service. The Prince of Condé, since his returne, is more gracious with the King than ever, being admitted into the secret of affaires. He continues still very invetarate against M^r de Louvoy. In case M^r de Turenne comes away, it's sayd the Prince is designed to succeed him in that post with the title of 'Generalissime des Armées du Roy,' with this provision also, that in case he be indisposed his son, the Duke of Anguien, shall have the same qualification.

They talke at Court that, considering the dotage of M^r d'Aligre, 'Garde des Sceaux,' & yet, for his former services, being willing to let him dye in that charge, his Ma^{ty} is thinking of making a Chancellour.

For the raising of present money, the King is making three 'Grand Tresoriers de L'Espargne,' viz^t, Mons^r Fouqueau,¹ M^r Coquille, & M^r Fremond,² *moyenant* four hundred thousand crowns each to be payd downe. His Ma^{ty} is also selling his 'Petit Domaine' to persons that have shares with him.

Yesterday I found the Court very briske upon the news of the Sweed's Army of above 20,000 men being on their march towards the hereditary territories of the Emp^r, & that the Sweeds having desired passage of the Duke of Braundenburg, the Elector hath made refusall.

The King hath made a new troop of 'Gens d'Armes Flamants,' like those of his house of English & Scotch, & hath given the com-

¹ Nicolas Joseph Foucault.

² Nicolas Frémont, Seigneur d'Auneuil.

mand of it, in quality of Capt Lieuten^t, to the young Count de Marsin, son to him that was 'Mestre de Camp Gen^l' in Flanders.¹

It is not yet knowne how the businesse will end of the Maids of Honour. Some say they are like to be reestablished, but I cannot believe it, for Monsieur taketh Mad: de Loudre² & M^{lle} d'Ampierre³ to the service of Madame, as having served our late Madame. Madame de Guize entertains Mad^{lle} de Teobon,⁴ & M^{lle} de Coelogon⁵ is to dwell with Madame de Richilieu⁶ by the Queen's order, & the other four retire to their kindred—viz^t, M^{lle} La Motte,⁷ de la Mark,⁸ du Rouvroy,⁹ & de L'Anry.¹⁰ The Queen resolving to have no more young maidens near her, she intends to take women that shall be called 'Dames du Louvre' to wayt upon her at table, & elsewhere persons to be chosen out for *beaux esprits* as well as piety.

The Elector of Cullen hath complaind extremely of M^r D'Estrades, Gov^r of Maestricht, in that he hath cutt to peices about 600 *Liedois* that the Elector had putt into garrison in Tongres, because they refused to send him forrage. They beat the French twice back, but could not bear the third shock, & soe had no quarter.

The last courier from Poland left that King near his end, having been given over by the physicians, & received the last ceremony of his Church.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Decemb 10th, '73, S.N.

I did not give myselfe the honour of writing to your Lopp by the last post because I was then at S^t Germain, where the news was just come of the Conte de Guiche's death, of a violent fever. The Court was troubled for him, but the old Marshall Grammont is inconsolable. The King has sent Orders to his troops that are

¹ Ferdinand, Comte de Marsin, son of Jean Gaspard Ferdinand, Comte de Marsin.

² Marie Isabelle, Comtesse de Ludres.

³ Hélène Fourré de Dampierre.

⁴ Mademoiselle Lydie de Rochefort-Théobon.

⁵ Louise Philippe de Coëtlogon.

⁶ Anne Poussart, daughter of François, Marquis de Fors.

⁷ Anne Lucie de la Mothe-Houdancourt, later Duchesse de la Vieuville.

⁸ Marie Françoise Echallard de la Mark.

⁹ Jeanne de Rouvroy.

¹⁰ Adrienne Philippine Thérèse de Lannoi, later Comtesse de Montrevel.

in Lorraine to march strait to Dijon, to winter on the frontiers of the Franche Comté, to putt that province under contribution, & hinder the excursions of the Spaniards in that countrey, where it is thought they may be strenghtn'd by some Germans.

The King has issued out his orders for the augmenting each of his 30 companies of French Guards with 50 men, without any charge to himselfe as it is contrived, in that every one of the ensigns shall bee made Sublieutenants, & the Captains to name new ensigns, the profit whereof will raise the men. Hee has also ordained that all other foot companies of French shall be made up, 60 in each, whenas hitherto they have consisted but of 50. In fine, the drums beat in all quarters for the raising of fourty thousand men more.

Some troops, under the command of the Chev^r du Plessis Praslin, have been before Berne Castel, but had noe convenience of making their batteries. It is a place near Trèves where 1,200 Spaniards & Germans are in garrison who have desired to capitulate, but the French persisting that they should bee prisoners of warre, the besieged are resolved to defend themselves till such time as the batteries force them to surrender.

Marshall Turenne's army is marched all along the side of the Sarre, towards Treves, in order to the winter quartering, where his Ma^y has named the Marq^s Maulevoir,¹ brother to Mons^r Colbert (who has been a long while in a small disgrace) to command as 'Marsh^l du Camp,' because Turenne himself & most of the other great commanders are expected here, at w^{ch} time a Councell of Warre will bee established, & the Prince of Condé is to preside in it.

The Duke of Luxembourg has disposed of his body also; part he has sent to Dusseldorp to keep garrison there at the Duke of Nienburgh's instance, who apprehended that if the Imperialists should passe the Rhine, they would *attaque* that place. The rest of his troops he has put into Nuits, Wesel, Rhinsberg, Fort Skink, Arnhem, Nimegue, & Grave.

M^r de Montecuculi is gone for Vienna, & Bournonville² remains in chiefe. It is thought that those forces will remaine in the Pays de Cologne & Juliers all the winter, as those of the Prince of Orange

¹ Edouard François Colbert, Comte de Maulévrier, fourth son of Nicolas Colbert, brother of the 'grand Colbert.'

² Alexandre Hippolyte Balthazar, Comte de Hennin, later Duc de Bournonville.

in the Pays de Liège to bridle those of Maestricht by stopping of provisions, & particularly to subsist *aux depends d'autrui*.

A marriage is discoursed of between the young Conte de Soissons¹ & Mad^{lle} de Vivonne,² in w^{ch} case the charge of Coll^l of the *Suisse* will be reserved for him.

It is also said that the Maids of Honour are likely to be restored again to their attendance on the Queen, upon the importunity & sollicitation of their relations, who have alledged how much their reputations would suffer in the world by such laying them aside, even to the loosing of their future fortunes. However one of them, Mad^{lle} de Lanoy, need not fear neither, she being to marry the son of the Marq^s de Pompadour, to whom the King has given the reversion of his father's place.

Wee are in hourly expectation of news from Rome, the last advice thence having left the Pope in a very declining condicōn, little hopes being left of his recovery.

Wee are also, in a manner, assured of the King of Poland's being dead, soe much as to discourse of his successour. The Prince Charles of Lorraine seems to be the fairest pretender of a stranger, as propt by the Emperour upon the account of his being designed ye marrying the Queen of Poland.³

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Decemb 16, '73.

Att Court they are very busy in distributing of commissions for the raising of more men, his Ma^{ty} designing to have three good armies on foot at Spring, one very substantiall against the Germans, & two in Flanders, to consist in all of about four score & ten thousand men, whereof they count fourty thousand horse.

The Marsh^l de Belfonds is quartered with nine thousand men at Vilvorde, within four leagues of Brussels, to make them subsist upon the Spannish territories, & to extend his contribution even to the very gates of Bruxels. A body of horse of Luxembourgs's army, not being able to live in the places taken from the Dutch, are also quartered in Flanders, between the Sambre & the Meuse, under the

¹ Louis Thomas de Savoie (1658–1702), son of Eugène Maurice, Comte de Savoie.

² This marriage never took place, as two of the daughters of Louis Victor de Rochechouart, Duc de Vivonne, became nuns, a third married the Duc d'Elbœuf, and the remaining two were not married until 1693 and 1702.

³ See n. 1, p. 232.

command of the C^t de Schomberg; whilst the Spannish & Dutch forces are wintering along the Roer, & the Imperialists on both sides the Rhine, having a bridge for communication at Bonne.

The letters from Italy left the Pope well recovered againe from his late sicknesse, & the Card^l Chigi much hurt with the overturning of his coach.

It is taken notice of that as yet the Court of Spaine hath not declared warre with the French, neither at Madrid nor any of its dominions in Italy, though some ships have been taken by the French from the Milanese, & other hostilities committed in the Mediterranean.

The Chev^r de Vendosme, being passionately in love with Mad: de Ludre, the famous beauty of this Court, & consequently not able to endure a rivall, hath quarreld with the C. de Vivonne, soe that a guard is set upon him to hinder the execution of his threats.

Marshall Turenne came to towne the last night, soe that now the Councell of Warre will sett to consult upon the present state of affaires. It is thought that Flanders will be the scene of the next *Campagne*. Scott is still treating with the French for the sale of his mapps he has lately made of Sluys, & other places belonging to the Dutch, as well as ye Spaniards, but he holds one dearer than a place might be corrupted for, & sayes he will not sell a whole countrey unlesse hee can make his fortune by it. Hee hath made two w^{ch} might be of great use to us, containing the severall passages into Holland & Zeal^d by sea, with the severall soundings he hath collected with much industry, from the many pilotts he hath conversed with to that purpose, & I believe a little considerac^on might gett them of him. I have advised him, however, to make a present of them to his Ma^{ty}.

Here is news of a great defeat of the Turks by the Polanders, wherein they lost near thirty thousand men.¹

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: December 24th, '73.

Notwithstanding the severall days named for the M^l de Turenne's coming hither, it seems his businesse kept him till

¹ The defeat of the Turks by John Sobieski at Kotzim and the death of the Polish King Michael Korybut Wisniowieski occurred on the same day, November 10, 1673.

Thursday night last, soe that now, for the future, a Councell of Warre shall manauge all military enterprises. The King, in his Grand Councell, for the better restablishing the forreigne trade, hath suppressed the duty, 30 per cent, sett upon all marchandise & forreigne manufactures imported in France, soe that for the future they shall pay nothing. There is also another *arrest de conseil* coming out, giving permission to Dutch merchants & to Spaniards to come into the French ports with passeports, & there to buy wines & other marchandise, upon condition that they pay a new tax of a crown per tunn, besides the ancient one of 50 sous.

The Sr d'Almeras is made Lieutenant Generall in the navall forces of France, in order to the succeeding Mons^r Martel, as it is thought, in the next summer's expedition. The *Chefs d'Escadre* are made of four captains of ships, the Sieurs de Vabelle,¹ de Gabaret, de Previlly, et de Chasteauvieux.

On Wednesday last were verified in Parliament, in the *Grand Chambre* & the *Chambre des Comptes*, recognizances, wherby Louis Auguste, in quality of Duke du Maine, Louis Hector, as Conte de Vexin, & Louise Francoise, as Countesse of Nantes, were declared naturall children of France.²

The King has received from Mⁿ Sobieski an account of his victory over the Turks, which has been soe considerable that a greater has not been obtained against them these three hundred years.

It is much wondered at here that the Imperialists did not endeavour the opposing the Duke of Luxembourg's passage along the Roer within 4 leagues of Maestricht, whence that Generall intends to march into Flanders with his 30 thousand men, & there to quarter all the winter.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Decemb 30th, '73.

This Court hath been these two days much alarmed at the receipt of severall advices from the Duke of Luxembourg, whose intentions being to march from Maestricht along the Ardenes, on the other side the Meuse, towards Mezieres, in order to the putting

¹ Jean Baptiste, Chevalier de Valbelle.

² Louis Auguste de Bourbon, Duke of Maine and Aumale and Comte d'Eu, born 1670 ; Louis Hector César de Bourbon, Comte de Vexin, born 1672 ; Louise Francoise de Bourbon, Mademoiselle de Nantes, born 1673.

his Army in Winter quarters. As he was stopped by the way, by the breaking of a bridge he had cast over a river near Namur, he received advice of the Spannish & Dutch troops advancing towards him, in order to the cutting off his baggage (^{w^{ch}} consisted of 3,000 waggons) as well as the reare of his Army, as they were to passe a difficult way through the Ardennes, which made him resolve to march back, & encamp under the cannon of Maestricht, there to expect the King's orders to leave his baggage & fight his passage, or to steer another course along the Moselle, to come into France by Metz. For in the post he is, his horse would perish for want of provender, & his men much streightn'd for victualls. Whereupon, on Thursday, a great Councell of Warre was held at St Germain, where it was ordered that Mons^r de Schomberg should doe his utmost with the little army he commands between the Sambre & the Meuse, to favour the Duke of Luxembourg's retreat, that some Companies of *Suisse* should march hence, that the Prince of Condé & all the other officers, who thought to have reposed here this winter, should repaire towards Flanders, & that if the stresse required it, his Ma^y himselfe would goe away in 6 or 7 days. It is sayd also, that if the Duke of Luxembourg goe the other way along the Moselle, the Duke of Lorraine is posted very advantageously to stop his passage that way also.

The Imperialists are treating with the Town of Liege, & in case they can putt in a garrison there, Maestricht will be streightned for want of ye provisions it was furnished with from thence.

A courier arrived here on Thursday from S^r Wm Godolphin, & I hope he is ere this with your Lopp. The inclosed *Ordonnances* are those I mençoned to your Lopp in a former about Commerce, but I believe little profit will redound from them, because the Dutch & Flemmings have already forbidden the consumption of French commodities, but most particularly their wines & brandys.

Mr de Ruvigny, upon his desire to come over again, his owne affairs requiring his presence here, he was ordered to stay in England till the meeting of the Parliament.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Jan 3^d, '73 [74].

I am desired to represent to your Lopp an accident that hath befallen Madam Buat, which I doe the rather presume upon in that

I remember your Lopp hath formerly been pleased to doe her good offices here. On Saturday there came guards to her house & seised on all she had, w^{ch} are sealed together with her papers, & officers are sett upon her in her house to confine her, without the least intimacōn upon what reason the seisure is made, other than what Mons^r Monbas giveth out, that it is in reprizall of what hath been done to his wife¹ at Antwerp in the like manner, at the Prince of Orange's instance with the C. de Monterei. She hath by some friend made application to M^r de Pompone, who could putt her into no other way for reliefe than to use her utmost with her friends in England; wherfore she would by this post have made her suit to y^r Lopp if she were permitted to write without the circumstance of having her letters seen at Court. Your Lopp will therefore doe a great deed of charity in embracing the cause of this afflicted lady, by a favourable word to the French Amb^r in her behalf, or otherwise, as y^r Lopp shall be pleased to think fitt.

M^r Monbas has made a second defence in his justification, wherein I hear hee is very bitter with the Prince of Orange & is otherwise very guilty of railing at him.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Jan. 3^d, '73 [74].

By a courier from Mons^r de Luxembourg the King has a pretty good account of him, that he has been relieved with forrage & in good condicōn. His Ma^{ty} is also pleased with something the C. de Schomberg has done with his 4,000 horse. The Duc of Condé, the Duke d'Anguien, & M^l Turenne goe hence on Munday, though the latter bee ill of the gout. It is believed the French will endeavour to make themselves masters of Navagne, a fort the Spaniards have near Maestricht w^{ch} does much incomode that place. Two days since, L'Abbé Brunetti went hence towards Poland. I suppose y^r Lopp remembers him of old as a man of intrigues. He hath promised to give your Lopp an account of all affaires in that Kingdome, particularly as to the new election, by the way of Dantsick.

On New Year's Day the Maids-of-Honour left the Court, having

¹ Cornélie de Groot, Vicomtesse de Montbas.

appeared on the eve in great lustre at the last farewell. The Queen hath chosen in their places to attend, five *Dames du Palais*, who are the Princesse of Harcourt,¹ Duchesse de Chevreuse,² duchesse de Soubise,³ the Marquesse of Rochefort,⁴ & the Marquesse d'Albret,⁵ with the pension of two thousand crowns a year to each.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Jan. 6th, '73 ['74].

Since my last here hath little of moment happ'ned worth your Lopp's knowledge.

The French begin to presse the Sweeds to declare themselves according to the late Treaty concluded at Stockholme by M^r de Pompone, since the Emperour doeth actually favour the Hollanders in the warre; but the Sweeds keep off, whether it bee for want of money & men, or rather the fear of exciting some neighbour Princes to unite against, wherfore the mediatours doe sincerely labour for the effecting a Peace, though with very little successe, & now the French foresee no other way towards it than a decision by armes.

The *rendevous* of the troops, lately ordered to march for the drawing the Duke of Luxembourg out of the brambles, is to be at Avesnes, the 8th instant, when an army will be gott together there of about twenty thousand men, whence they are to march to find out the enemy between Namur & Liege; but, by that time, it is believed the Spannish & Dutch troops will be retired into their quarters, they having partly obtain'd what they designed in the harassing the French by these winter marches. The Prince of Condé goes away Munday, but M^{ll} Turenne cannot goe so soon,

¹ François de Brancas, Princesse d'Harcourt, wife of Alphonse Henri Charles de Lorraine, Prince d'Harcourt.

² Jeanne Marie Thérèse Colbert, Duchesse de Chevreuse, daughter of Jean Baptiste Colbert.

³ Anne de Rohan Chabot, Princesse de Soubise, wife of François de Rohan, Prince de Soubise.

⁴ Madeleine de Laval Bois-Dauphin, Marquise de Rochefort, wife of Henri Louis d'Aloigny, Marquis de Rochefort.

⁵ Marie, only daughter of Marshal d'Albret, and wife of Charles Amanieu 'Albret, Sire de Pons, known as the Marquis d'Albret.

the gout retarding him. He hath voluntarily offered to serve under the Prince or the Duke of Anguien.

The King, having suppressed a great number of *Greffiers* all over the Kingdome, has issued out commissions for 600 more, w^{ch} are to be bought by particulars & will raise great sums of money.

They talke here of a match designed between the Prince of Tarante & the Countesse of Guiche.¹

Ye King of France is sending a squadron of ships towards Lisbone, to bee commanded by Mons^r de Quesne, in order to the favourising Dⁿ Pedro's being made King of Portugall, ye Prince being to raise twelve thousand men. That sea commander is a great friend to ye English, but an enemy to ye Count d'Estrée, & hath informed of much foule play ye last summer by ye confession of officers. Hee says ye King of France will have a good fleet out this yeare & they shall fight.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Jan. 10th, '74.

After the first resolutions for the generall *rendevous* of an army at Avesnes they have countermanded the march, & since that again new orders are sent for their proceeding on, the Prince of Condé going away this morning, as doth the Marshall Turenne in two or three days in a *chaise roulante* that will carry him as fast as the Post, he having the gout in both his leggs. Last night came a courier, as I am informed, from the Duke of Luxembourg, with an account of his having forced his passage through towards Charleroy, but that the dispute was very vigorous & hott on both sides. The slaughter having been great, the French pretend not to any great advantage over the enemy in this *rencontre*, but, on the contrary, by the whispers we guesse their losse to be considerable. However the Court is preparing for the *divertisements* of the Carnavall, & the new Opera is to be represented in a few days; by forestall, it is sayd to be as fine as ever was in Italy.

¹ Marguerite Louise de Béthune, widow of Armand de Gramont, Comte de Guiche. She married the Duc de Lude.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Jan. 13th, 1674, S.N.

Two days since the Prince of Condé went hence towards Avesnes, where is to bee the generall *rendevous* of ten thousand horse *de la maison du Roy*, & as many foot; but his Ma^{ty}, having since received advice of the Spannish & Dutch troops having passed the Delmer & retired towards Diest, it is sayd the Prince will have order to returne, as hath the M^{ll} de Turenne not to goe hence till he hath further directions for it from his Ma^{ty}, although his equipage is already on the way. On Tuesday last the King was pleased to dignify Mons^r d'Aligre, Keeper of the Seals, with the title of Chancellour, & hath created an additional number of eight Masters of Requests, to compleat that of 80, they being hitherto but 72, with the pension of 4,000 livers yearly & this proviso, that the severall pretenders shall pay each into the Royall Treasure twenty thousand pistols, those charges having hitherto been valued at thirty thousand, besides which some new Councillours are to bee admitted paying ten thous^d pistols each. The advancing of Mons^r d'Aligre is in order, as most believe, to the creating a *Garde des Sceaux*, by reason of his great age, that incapacitateth him to performe the functions of that charge, his Ma^{ty} being unwilling, for his many former services, to lay him aside otherwise than by such a promotion.

The Duke of Chaulnes is expected here this day, & hence he proceeds again for Cologne, where Mons^r Van Bewerning, at his taking leave of the mediatours, among other things told them, by way of bravadoe, his masters had designed twenty-four millions for the next summer's expedition, to which they replied, such a sum were better employed in the obtaining a good peace, whereupon they fell into arguments upon the main obstacle, the Sweeds proposing means how the Duke of Lorraine's concerns might be treated apart by new mediatours of the Empire, & for the doing whereof this Treaty should be guaranty; but the Dutch Minister returned to the old track they have been in all this summer, that the Duke of Lorraine is to be admitted into this Treaty with the rest of their allies in order to the generall peace intended by their league, or else the Treaty cannot be proceeded on.

The C. de Vivonne is designed to command a strong squadron

of men-of-warre, joined with galleys, this summer, in the Mediterranean.

I am just going some leagues out of this place to meet my L^d Amb^r Lockhart, his Ex^{cy} being expected here this evening.

I must unsay what a generall rumour made me remarke to y^r Lopp in my last about the Duke of Luxembourg as not confirmed since to us.¹

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Feb. 3^d, '74.

Our letters from England having been these six days wanting to us, these people make strange guesses at the cause, as if matters did not goe well there, which God forbid.

The designe upon Grey & Bezançon is crost by the great overflow of waters that hinder the march of those troops that were on their way, soe that the Duke of Navailles hath order not [to] pursue that enterprise yet awhile, untill the season render the attempt more feasible. In the meantime, some Imperiall forces commanded by the C^t de Starenburg,² were going to passe into the Franche Comté,³ & were to be assisted in that designe by Coll: Massiotti, who commands the Spannish horse & was advanced towards Alsace; but the Marquis de Vaubrun, having notice of it, has possessed himselfe of the passages through which the others intended to have made their way.

The Court is diverting itselfe with the gayety of the Carnival, w^{ch} ended, it removeth to Versailles.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Feb. 12th, '74.

The French are jealous that by the great disposition they see in the English towards a Peace his Maj^{ty} may be induced to make one, but we endeavour to persuade them that a matter of that nature will not be precipitated.⁴ They have made an *estat* for the next *Campagne* of 44 millions to defray the charge, and another of one hundred thousand men to be actually in the field, one to be

¹ See letter dated January 10.

² Ernest Rudiger, Comte de Staremburg.

³ The campaign of 1674 took place in Franche-Comté.

⁴ Early in January 1674 Charles announced to his Parliament that the Dutch had made overtures to him for peace (Mignet, iv. 259).

commanded by the M^{ll} Turenne, to head the Germans, another by the P^{ce} of Condé, to besiege the Flemmings, & a third the King will have in the field himselfe, to send succour to the other two as occasion shall require; but, after all this, nobody knows whether matters may not change the usage by a generall *accomodement*, wherein I wish your Ex^{ce} all happiness, honour, & prosperity.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Febr. 16, '74.

Since the dispatch his Ex^{ce} made to your Lopp by the courier, nothing of novelty hath happned, the Court being busy in regulating matters for the next *Campayne*, & the people will not be persuaded but that wee have made a Peace up with the Dutch. The Count de Koningsmark is gone towards the Franche Comté, where Mons^r de Navailles is endeavouring to doe some feats. Here is an *Envoyé* from the Bpp of Munster, who does in a manner represent that his master will be forced to make up with the Dutch if not speedily supplied to be in a capacity of bearing the shock he dreads may fall upon him.

The Marquis de Courcelle, who was the person suspected to have stolen the great silver lamp in the King's Chappell, is taken disguised like a peasant.

Mons^r Martel is sayd to be restored to his liberty & command againe, as is Madam de Buat, at the Ambassadour's sollicitation, freed from her confinement.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Feb. 20th, '74.

Your Ex^{cies} of the 6th has confirmed to me what I most have aimed at, your condescending kindnesse in your good wishes, for which I returne y^r Ex^{ce} my most humble thanks, with assurance that, whether in this new employm^t of Scry of the Embassy or any other, I shall ambition at nothing more than the making my services acceptable to you.

We have nothing new since his Ex^{cies} last to you, unles it be the French King's haveing named the severall principal officers for this next *Campagne*,¹ as :

¹ For the officers of this campaign see the *Gazette de France* for the year 1674, and *La Chronologie Historique Militaire*, par Pinard.

<i>In the Kg's Army.</i>	<i>In the Prince of Conde's Army.</i>	<i>In Turenne's Army.</i>
Mr de {	the Duke d'Anguien	St Abré,
Monsieur La	& the Cont de	Foueault,
Feuillade,	Schonberg,	L'Orgerre
Grand		
Maistre,		
Rochefort,		
Tourille-[Tourville],		
	are Lieutenant Generalls.	

<i>The King's.</i>	<i>Prince's.</i>	<i>Turenne's.</i>
	<i>Marshalls de Camp.</i>	
Chev ^r de Lorraine,	Koningsmark,	Chev ^r de Rosty,
Reynel [Renel],	Choiseul,	Molimire,
Hautefeuille,	La Cardonnière,	La Mark,
Genlis,	Le Conte de Sault,	Le C. de Rese.



	<i>Brigadiers of Foot.</i>	
Roquemord,	Mousty,	Douglas,
Stoppes,	Le premier,	Reveillon.
Villery,	Gussé,	Puisieux,
Monbron,	Erlorch,	Pierre fitte.

	<i>Brigadiers of Horse.</i>	
Forbins,	Lancon,	L'Ambet,
Chaseron,	S ^t Clair,	Benuverté,
La Trousse,	Catheux,	Reuty,
Montelast,	Sourdis,	Chev ^r d'Humiére.
Tilladet,	Pittois,	
La Feuillée,		

We hear this morning that the Duke de Navailles has summoned Grey to a surrender, or else he threatens the taking it by assault.¹ The Conte de Connismarke is gone away towards the Franch Comté to joyne him with five th^d men. We are impatient till our letters come from England, these people giving

¹ The siege of Gray took place on either February 27 or 28.

us a *mauvaise mine* upon a surmise they have of our concluding a Peace with the Dutch with the excluding of France.¹

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: March 5th, '74.

Inclosed I send you two new Edicts, & when the rest are printed, y^r Ex^{ce} shall have them.² One has a preamble very well worth y^r reading, not quite of the same tenure as the declaration of warre. There is an embargo sent that no French ships goe out of the port—for two reasons: a maine one, that they fall not in the hands of the enemy, & the other, that they may have men to sett out many privateers. The Marq^s d'Anjeau has had some courriers sent to call him home againe & not to pursue his designe of fighting the Earl of Peterborow. The story is severally represented, but the truth is to this effect, that the Marq^s sent to the Earl to demand the remainder of what he won of him at play, I think the value of four thousand pound, & had for answer that he was sorry he had paid him any at all, but if he would expect the rest he must demand it at the point of his sword. This making a great noyse, the Marq^s was obliged, in point of honour (contrary to his maxims of selfe preservation) to goe for England, but withall made such a noyse of it, that everybody here knew it as soon as he went.

It is sayd here that y^r Ex^{ce} is going Amb^r to the Emperour, & that my L^d Amb^r Jenkins³ is designed for Holland as such, but you know that better than wee.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: March 7th, '74.

The Court hath been taken up these days past with the affairs of the Franche Comté, the Duke de Navailles having sent the Capitaine of his Guards expressly to the King with an account of the taking of Grey after three days' siege. The conditions were, that the *Suisse* in the place might returne to their countrey, & the remaining part of the garrison to march out without armes, it being

¹ The English Parliament had been urging Charles to treat with the Dutch for terms of peace. Sir W^m Lockhart was despatched to France to assure Louis of the friendship of England. In the meantime, England had concluded a separate treaty with the Dutch (Mignet, iv. 267).

² The enclosure is missing.

³ See footnote 1, p. 248.

only permitted to Coll: Massietti, the Governour, to be mounted, who was to passe his word not to serve the Spanniards for six months' space. There was not one peice of canon in the place, but great quantities of provisions. They will goe next towards Salines & Bezançon; some say the King thinks of going that way about the beginning of Aprill to favorise the conquest of that province before the *Campagne* begin.

M^r de Rochefort has taken a place belonging to the Prince Palatin called Permersion, of which that Elector has sent to complain to the Emp^r & to desire his succour. The French are much concerned at the Treaty lately made between him & the Emp^r,¹ notwithstanding the alliances he had made with France. Madame d'Anjeau² is much in paine for her husband, not having as yet any news from him.

The Conte de Schomberg is come to towne in order to his yet going to his command in Roussillon.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Novemb 10th, '74, S.N.

We have no fresh news from M^r de Turenne's army other than what y^r Hon^r will find more at large in the print. It is confirmed thence that both parties think of putting themselves into winter-quarters and that the Brandenburgers will returne to secure their concerns at home, if it be true, as is given out, that the Sweeds doe really march, w^{ch} makes me the rather believe it is the C. de Koningsmarck's taking leave here, in order to the repairing to his master's army, where he is to command as Lieut^{nt}-Generall.

On Munday the judges met at the Arsenal, w^{ch} day was spent in continuing conveniences, as was the next in the opening the commission & taking their places accordingly. The next they proceeded in the examinations, w^{ch} consisted into 92 interrogatories, to w^{ch} he hath made a very ingenious confession, soe that in a day or two they will proceed to his sentence; ³ about fourty more are tryed at the

¹ This treaty was made in February 1674 between Spain, the Emperor, the Elector Palatin, the Bishop of Münster, and the Elector of Cologne, by which each of the Powers withdrew help from France.

² Françoise Morin, Marquise de Dangeau.

³ This refers to the trial of the Chevalier de Rohan. See p. 303 for particulars of the conspiracy.

same time, besides some bakers who would have poisoned the ammunition bread in the P^{ce} of Condé's Army. All English letters are wanting to us; as for M^r S^t Michel, who came hither about the privateer concerne, he is, in a manner, escaped hence with all hast, before the Order of Councell could be served on him, & I suppose returns in state on the yacht that brought him.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Novemb 14, '74, S.N.

Being going to S^t Germain's I have only time to cover the inclosed ¹ & to tell your Hon^r that we have no considerable news from M^r de Turenne, only that the body of M^r de Crussol's son had been sent to him embalmed. It seems that being made prisoner & two captains in dispute whose he should bee, the one of them kill'd the poor gentleman, that neither might have any profit of him. We hear also that parte of the *arrière ban* of Anjou has been surprised in the night time with their chief, M^r de Sablay,² about 15 being slayne for resisting, and near 300 servants are stripped & soe turned loose. Orders are sent to Marseilles for the arming of 12 more ships for the Messina succour, and at Court here, they demand more deputys from thence, to remaine here as hostages for the French who are already among them.

The King is erecting a 'Chambre de Comptes' at Montauban w^{ch} will be worth above three millions to him.

Recruits are sending to M^r de Schomberg's army, & Van Tromp, we hear, has landed the Span^{is} he had on board, pretending his having orders to returne home with all expedition.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Novemb 17th, '74.

I have little to add to the inclosed ³ paper but what our letters from Bayonne of the 8th advise, that by a courier from Madrid, of the 4th, they learn the plate fleets being arrived in Spain, consisting of 16 ships laden with 14 millions of silver and two millions of gold. The Prince of Condé is gone for Chantilly to passe a few

¹ The enclosure is missing.

² See *Histoire de Louvois*, par Camille Rousset, t. ii. p. 99.

³ The enclosure is missing.

days with some *beaux esprits* he has taken with him. Mons^r de Crequi is going towards Maestricht to command a body w^{ch} is assembling thereabouts upon advise of the enemy's doeing the like. The processe of the Chev^r de Rohan ¹ goes on very slowly, though some say it will [be] ended with the next week. It is confidently sayd that the Sweeds are marching towards Berlin, although, on the other side, they were not to declare themselves till the 20th of this month.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Novemb^r 21, '74.

I have your Hon^{rs} of the 2^d to acknowledge with my humble thanks. The discourse of this place toucheth much upon some little disorders in Angoumois by reason of a new tax on wines, w^{ch} the poor people refused rather for want of money than the will. M^r Bertillac,² who received & paid *en chef* all the money of the *espargne*, [is] to be recompenced with two hundred thous^d crowns & laid aside, that his charge may bee executed by three *Tresoriers*, who shall pay downe a million each for their places. My L^d Douglas, my L^d Duras, & S^r Geo Hamilton are here, & many other officers.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Novemb^r 24th, '74, S.N.

Your Hon^r will find that, after all the storys of the Sweeds entring into Pomerania, they were only pretexs made here to amuse, since, as yet, their army doth not move, neither in all likelihood will it engage in hast.

I hear that the French are employing all the interest they have in Rome to get a cap for P^{ce} W^m of Furstenburg, and the Pope's Nuntio hath offered his master's mediation for an accomodation, adding this compliment, that his H^{ess} hoped as the King is *filz aîné de l'église*, he would use his utmost endeavours to give peace and repose to Xtendome.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Novemb^r 28, '74, S.N.

Notwithstanding all ye delays & hopes in ye Chevalier de Rohan's processe, the judges came two days since to a conclusion,

¹ Louis de Rohan, youngest son of Louis, Prince de Guéméné.

² Etienne Jehannot de Bartillat, treasurer of the 'Epargne.'

wh^{ch} they sent to ye King, who moderated ye sentence from ye beeing drawne to peeces by horses to that of beheading of him ; so that accordingly, yesterday all the burgers in ye *fauboury* St Antoine were commanded to keepe home, all the streets thereabout were chained, and ye *Mousquetaires du Roy* with some troops of ye 'Gards du Corps' were sett to attend at ye execution. Hee was beheaded about foure in ye afternoon ; all his relations & a greate number of other persons of quality retir'd out of this citty, not to bee here at ye execution.

Madame Villers,¹ his confident, was also putt to death, together with a nepheu² of Truauumont³ (who was kill'd at ye first discovery of ye plot at Rouen, and was ye Chevalier's chief engine in it), & a scoole-master⁴ (who menaged ye correspondance for him and tooke care of ye bills of exchange) was hang'd. There are many other prisoners thought to bee concern'd therein, who are to remaine such till information bee made against them, beside whom there are four more, who will bee executed in a day or two. I am told by one y^t saw ye sentence, that it beareth *leze Majesté* in the endeavouring a revolt in Normandy, & the giving a certaine part there to the Hollanders. It is said that Mad^e Villers had open dissuaded him from it, and treated him in *fol & ridicule*, butt finding him peremptory did then not only conceale the designe butt assist him in it. What further particulars shall come to my knowledge as to this business shall goe in a paper apart herewith.⁵

As to ye Sweeds, I am inform'd that M^r de Vitry⁶ payd to M^r Wrangel⁷ by ye means of one James Martin, a *banquier* at Hambourg, one hundred thousand crowns on ye 16th of this month, & y^t they ought to march on ye 22th ; however wee have much adoe to believe they will bee so diligent, and make so suddain a dis-

¹ Anne de Saran had married the Marquis de Malorty de Villars for her second husband. She was at the time of this conspiracy a widow, and was presumably the mistress of De Rohan.

² The Chevalier de Préaux.

³ Sieur Gilles du Hamel de la Tréaumont, formerly an officer in the French army. He was the son of an auditor of the 'Chambre des Comptes' of Rouen.

⁴ Van den Enden, a Dutch schoolmaster, who had left Holland on account of the persecution, and had established himself at Picpus, near Paris.

⁵ See *Archives de la Bastille*, par F. Ravaisson, vol. vii.

⁶ François Marie de l'Hôpital, Marquis, later Duc de Vitry.

⁷ Charles Gustave, Comte de Wrangel.

patch, in that ye consequences may concern them much if a Peace does not intervene. The discourse here is that Liège is like to bee ye place for ye Treaty, Aix-la-Chapelle beeing *à découverte*, & all other places excepting Hambourg to bee excepted against. The French are somew^t concerned at the news of the Imp^l forces having gotten into Dinant upon capitulation & the French garrison being marched out. I hear those Germans intend to besiege Rochefort & soe march up towards Bouillon.

I am informed from Engla^d of a certain person's soliciting for an employ^t in France & to have halfe my allow^{ce} deducted for him, & that Madame de Portsmouth¹ is his patronesse, & I can suspect nobody but M^r Petit, & therefore humbly beg y^r honour's favour in case such a disgrace should be intended mee after the service of aprentizeship w^{ch} I have made here, as to stand my friend & oppose soe great a mortification.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Novemb 28, '74.

The Chevalier de Rohan, haveing been several times examin'd, & ye *procez fait & parfait*, was condemn'd on Munday in ye evening, at five of ye clock, to have his head cutt off, and the same arrest (w^{ch} was immediately sent to Court by a *mousquetaire*) condemn'd the Chevalier de Preaux & Madame de Villers to have ye like punishment, as was ye scoolemaster Vandenenden to bee hang'd after ye applying to ye question. At 9 o'clock y^t night they brought ye Chevalier de Rohan his supper cutt into peeces, w^{ch} made him suspect some ill weather near, in that they would not trust him with a knife as formerly; at midnight ye Père Bourdalour² went to him & told him his doom, confess'd him, & sayd 'masse,' at w^{ch} ye others also assisted in ye Chappell of ye Bastille, where ye sentence was read & contain'd 'pour des crimes de lèze Majesté en second chef,' they beeing *contre l'estat*, and not the King's own person. Wile ye Chevalier was discoursing between ye two fathers, Madame de Villers, having nobody to comfort her, said: 'M^r de Rohan, Monsieur, je vous prie de me donner un de vos pères,' w^{ch} hee did accordingly. The Chevalier de Rohan trembled at his mounting ye scaffold and seem'd to have

¹ See p. 111, n. 2.

² The famous Jesuit preacher.

little resolution; the *bourreau* saluted him with his hatt and ask'd his forgiveness as by order of justice, w^{ch} hee gave him, & so kneel'd down and was executed; his body was carried away into ye Bastille by four of its guards; Mad^e Villers kiss'd ye block and seem'd to bee very un[con]cern'd, as was also ye Chevalier de P'reaux very free in his comportment on ye scaffold. As for the other prisonners, I hear they will hardly suffer death, butt bee banish'd some and confin'd others. Their names are M^{rs} de Crequy, Sourdeval, de Camday, d'Aigremont,¹ & Mad^{lle} de Villers.²

Wee heare of ye Imperialists beeing gotten into Dinant and ye French garnison marched out 700 strong, that thence ye Germans intend to move towards Bouillon & *attaque* Rochefort in their way.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Decemb 1, '74.

I have not been able to get those declarations y^r Hon^r desires, but hope to have them for the next Post.

The inclosed paper³ is very particular as to all our present news, to w^{ch} I can only add that M^r de Valbel is gone back in order to the embarquing 900 chosen men out of Schomberg's Army for Messina, and that M^r de Vivonne has sent a briske message to the Genovese, that if they cause not the Spannish galleys to quit their port, that he will endeavor to burne them in it, w^{ch} is bold enough if true.

Some relations of the Chev^r de Rohan besought the King the day before his execution that he would imitate his grandfather, H[enry] the 4th, with relation to M^{ll} Biron,⁴ having declared that if Biron would but owne the fault he would forgive him; alledging that the Chevalier had confessed all & was most penitent for having offended his Ma^{ty}, to w^{ch} the K^s replied, that H. the 4th had reason for what he did in that the Birones had ever sacrificed their lives for him, as had the M^{ll} exposed himselfe in the many battles he won, but that the Chev^r de Rohan had been far from designing to serve him, with w^{ch} he left them in tears.

¹ The Chevalier d'Aigremont had frequently received Madame de Villars in his château of Tournebut.

² See *Les Archives de la Bastille*, par F. Ravaisson, t. iv. p. 60, &c.

³ The enclosure is missing.

⁴ Charles de Gontaut de Biron. Beheaded in 1602.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Decemb 5th, '74.

The inclosed extracte from my correspondent at Strasbourg will give your Honour a perfect account of ye confederates, w^{ch} I send ye rather because yesterday the greate discourse at Court was as if they had all repass'd ye Rhine. On ye contrary, their affairs are in better disposition, & ye Duc of Loraine is posted in his own country & will extreamly incommode ye French this winter. I saw letters yesterday w^{ch} assur'd us that, after all, ye Sweeds will come to action, notwithstanding their Ambassadors ascerting ye contrary at ye Hague. Heere is a proposition of a match between ye Duke of Cadaval,¹ the favourite in Portugal, & Mad^{lle} d'Elbœuf.²

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Decemb. ye 12th, 1674.

Our English letters are yet wanting to us, w^{ch} troubles us ye more in y^t wee cannot divine what should bee ye reason of it, the weather having been very good. Wee are as much in pain to heare from Monsieur de Turenne in y^t wee doe believe hee has had some encounter with ye ennemy, hee having march'd towards them wth a body of ten thousand horse. I can't as yett gett those old *arrests* w^{ch} your Honour desires, butt am promis'd to have them soon.

The Duc de Soubize,³ who is Capitaine of ye *gensdarmes* and of ye house of Rohan, imagining that the disgrace of ye Chevalier beeing putt to death might yett extend so much to ye dishonour of his family as to leave an evill impression of it in his Maj^{ty}, went to ye King in order to ye resigning up his commission, wth this circumstance, y^t hee believ'd his Maj^{ty}, beeing so highly offendend, might suspect him in a charge so near his person ; to w^{ch} ye King replyd, that ye Chevalier's crime was personnal & his person had satisfyd justice ; y^t hee has ye same good inclinations for ye family as before this misfortune ; that hee would not accept off ye demission of his charge, butt, on ye contrary, conjur'd him to think himself very wellcome at Court, & moreover told him y^t hee gave

¹ Nimo Alvares Pereira de Mello, Duc de Cadaval. He married Mademoiselle d'Armagnac in 1679.

² Marie Marguerite Ignace de Lorraine, 'dame du palais' of Marie Thérèse of Austria.

³ François de Rohan, Prince de Soubise, uncle of the Chevalier de Rohan.

permission to him & all his famely to weare mourning for him. The King has of late, as a mark of esteeme for Mons^r de Schomberg, ordain'd y^t his sonn¹ shall have ye honour *de l'entrée du Louvre*.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Decemb 19, '74.

Since ye naming off the place for a treaty, these people talke very assuredly of a Peace for w^{ch} I suppose all partys wish. The French, as to money, are able to hold out yett two *Campagnes* very well, according to what Mons^r Colbert has lately assured his Maj^{ty}, butt the main difficulty is ye getting men, in that Mons^r de Turene's troops are quite spoyl'd by ye long fatigues, particularly ye horse, and the ennemy will in all appearance bee much stronger ye next than they were last yeare. For ye present, a greate part of Monsieur de Turene's horse are on their way to refresh themselves in France, and other troops w^{ch} were in Soissonnais and thereabout are marching to supply their places. In ye meantime, ye confederates have bloqued up Philisbourg & Brisac, that no succour can come at them. Here is a talk as if ye Bishop of Strasbourg had shewed ye King a letter from ye Duke of Loraine, wherein (in answer to one hee receiv'd from him, inviting ye Duke to quitt ye Imperial party, in that the most Xtian King had some good intention for him) hee tells ye Rpp that were hee at Vienna, and himself at Paris, they might both bee in danger of their lives. Others say it was ye Prince de Vaudemont, who, at his passing by heere, was wished to write to his father how kind ye French would bee to him, if hee would relinquish ye party hee was ingag'd in.

Heere is news come as if ye Messinian were accomodating wth ye Spaniards, being reduc'd to very greate necessities, & this is asserted by ye Venetian Ambassadour, although our letters from Toulon advise that Mons^r de Vivonne is gone to sea wth twelve ships, in order to ye relieving of those people.

To Sir Joseph Williamson:

Paris: Decemb ye 22th, '74.

Herewith your honour receives an extract of ye last advice wee have from Monsieur de Turene, to w^{ch} ye common discourse

¹ Frederick, later Comte de Schomberg.

yesterday did add, y^t having lost 7 or 800 men on ye march & about as many defeated by a party of ye ennemy's horse, that, apprehending hee might not finde provisions, and consequently his men moulder away, hee was thinking of returning towards Nancy, butt I cannot finde any ground for this report, & so believe it came only upon surmises, considering ye late ill-weather.

This Court is going into mourning for ye Prince Electoral of Brandenburg,¹ who dyed lately at Strasbourg. My lord of Clarendon dyed at Rouen² on Tuesday; my lord Cornbury³ was by him, butt his second sonn⁴ arriv'd two houres too late wth ye physicians.

I hear y^t the money consign'd hence to Hambourg for ye Sweed's payment is stopt there in ye *banquier's* hands by order from hence, untill they shall bee better satisfy'd as to ye march of y^t army.

The mariage between ye Comte de Saulx & Mad^{lle} de Retz⁵ is now at last fully agreed upon, as is that between ye Marquis de Seigneley & Mad^{lle} d'Alaigre in great forwardness, though I am told the King opposeth it, in that it will make that family too great by reason of her wealth. The Duke de Crequy⁶ is disposing of his onely daughter⁷ to ye Duke of Rohan.⁸ Heere has been a report these days past of ye Queene of Poland's beeing dead,⁹ so that ye phisicians have already designed a match between y^t King¹⁰ & ye Queene Dowager.¹¹

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 2^d, '75.

We expect every hour to hear of a battle; nay, the letters from Chaalons mention that there has been one [with] so great losse on

¹ Charles Æmilius, son of Frederick William the Great, Elector of Brandenburg.

² Edward Hyde, 1st Earl of Clarendon.

³ Henry Hyde, who succeeded his father as Earl of Clarendon.

⁴ See p. 7, n. 6.

⁵ Paule Marguerite Françoise de Gondi.

⁶ Charles III., Duc de Créquy, brother of Marshal Créquy.

⁷ Madeleine de Créquy. This marriage did not take place, as later she married the Prince de Tarente.

⁸ Louis de Rohan Chabot, Prince de Léon, later Duc de Rohan.

⁹ A false report, as Marie Casimir de la Grange, wife of John Sobieski, did not die until 1716.

¹⁰ John Sobieski, elected king in 1674.

¹¹ The Archduchess Eleanora of Austria, widow of Michael Wisniowieski.

both sides, but we must expect further confirmation. Mr de Schomberg is gone for Perpignon to hinder the Spaniards from renewing the incursions they have lately [made,] and the C^t de Koningmark's regiment is marching to his assistance, he himself staying here, after all the discourse of his going to command in the Sweed's army. Mr de Valbel is sayled with 8 men of war and many barks with provision for the reliefe of Messina, w^{ch} people have declared, that if they be not succour'd before New Year's Day, they would be forced to make the composition they could.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Jan. 9th, '75, S.N.

Of late wee have had such uncertaine advices from Mr de Turene's army, that wee know not what to passe for corrent. It is now about 12 days since a *rencontre* happned at a certaine passage, wherein ye Cons. de Briol¹ was wounded, & as yett it will not bee own'd that any courier is come with any particulars, & only yesterday at St Germain a letter was said to bee written from a *commissaire des vivres* in that army & another *commissaire* at Langres, wherein hee said they had taken a passage, & believ'd they should force ye confederates to repass ye Rhin ; & on ye other hand, ye inclosed extract² from my correspondent at Strasbourg will informe y^r honour what their opinion is on ye other side. In ye meanetime it is houely expected that news will come of a battle.

The Duchesse of Vaujour having lately sent ye King the resignation of that title, hee was pleas'd two days since to give it to her daughter, Mad^{lle} de Blois.³

On Saturday last two nunns of Lyons were carried to ye prison, call'd *le Fort l'Esque*, for false coining, with some two or three complices.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Janu. 16th, '75, S.N.

I dare not venture upon ye entertaining y^r honour wth an account of ye actions in Alsace, because ye relation, w^{ch} was promis'd his Ex^{cy}, went by ye last poast to Mr de Canaples⁴ without our

¹ Gabriel, Comte de Briord.

² The enclosure is missing.

³ Marie Anne de Bourbon, daughter of Louis XIV. and Madame de la Vallière.

⁴ François de Créquy, Comte de Canaples.

having a sight of it, & nothing will come out in print till a gentleman arrive from Mr de Turenne wth all ye circumstances. The French have had very great success in ye relieving of Brisac, ye making so many prisoners, & ye probability of obliging ye Germans to repass the Rhiu, because they will bee hardly able to subsist in this side of it; besides those of Strasbourg begin to declare that unles they take their garrison out of ye forts at ye ends of ye bridge, they will not admitt them, or send them any succoure. In ye meantime, as a further joy to this Court, the Bpp of Strasbourg & ye Sweed's Amb^r were yesterday at St Germain's, to assure the King of ye Sweeds having enter'd ye Marche of Brandebourg, and as a first act of hostility, taken one of the Electour's own castles, wherein were two hundred men.

They write from Marseilles that Mr de Valbel is gotten well in Messina wth provisions for ye relieve of those people, & that Mons^r de Vivonne would bee soon there to take upon him ye title of Viceroy. Herewth y^r honour receives an *édit* about ecclesiasticall alienations, wth will bring in great summs to the 'Espargne,' if the discoveries can bee well made.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 19, '75.

By the inclosed print ¹ your Hon^r will find how that 'Te Deum' is to be sung this day for the last advantages the French have had over the confederates, whereof you will find the particulars in the other print I send you, so that I will leave that subject to come to informe your Hon^r of a certain busnesse which hath made much noise here, and in all probability may doe more in England. My L^d Ambassadors hath written at large to Mr Cooke the naked truth of the story, to every article whereof we can all be very modest witnesses. His Ex^{ce} would not have published this affaire, or given your Hon^r the trouble of understanding it, if he thought he should not have bin attacqued from the Court of France in that of England. In short, I will presume to explaine the matter to you, but will refer your Hon^r to the letter my L^d writes to Mr Cooke, which he would not willingly have produced unlesse it be for justification.

About three weeks ago, our *Suisse* happened to die, and att the time of his death there were three Ecclesiasticks who assisted for

¹ The enclosure is missing.

his consolation, as being of the romish religion. His wife, imagining that the ceremony of the Sacrament (according to their opinion) might come time enough before his expiring, to finish the ceremonies of that church, being advised to it by the priests who assisted, sent for it. In the meantime, the man died and about half an houre after, F. Barclay, who was one present at his decease, returning home, met, not far from our house, the ceremony, which came to give him the extreame unction, & told them they might returne because the man was dead. This is the matter of fact on our side; on the other hand (as it may probably be supposed) the Archbishop of Paris hath made bitter complaints & represented the matter very falsely at Court, in so much that his Ex^{ce} being there on Tuesday last, Mr de Pomponne told him he had something to say to him from the King, and enlarged how much his Ma^{ty}'s conscience was grieved, in that a subject of his should die in his Ex^{cs}'s house without the ordinary rites of the Church of Rome being admitted to be performed at the hour of his death, alledging, that the sacred mistery was refused entrance at our gate, to which my L^d Ambassador endeavour'd to disabuse him and demonstrate the falsehood of the assertion. But the Minister, pushing the matter now home, told him that the King was resolved, in order to the putting his conscience *à couverte*, to command all his Roman Catholick subjects to quitte his Ex^{cic}'s service; to prevent which affront (though much to his inconvenience) he discharged them all yesterday, & in a day or two intends at an Audience to satisfie his most Christian Majesty as to the plaine truth of all [t]his businesse, and to complain a little as to his hast in resolution & judgement of him, before he had known from his Ex^{cc} what was the meer matter of fact. In the discourse with Mr de Pomponne, he was pressed to declare whether he would have permitted their ceremonies to come into his house or would suffer it for the future. His Ex^{cic} endeavour'd to evade a positive reply, but found himself obliged at last to declare that he could not answer such a *demarche* in the Court of England. There were now aggravating circumstances of heat and passion expressed by that Minister, to which his great zeale & devotion exposed him, of which I send not your Hon^r the particulars, because my L^d Ambassadors would have willingly smother'd the matter for their o[w]ne sakes for feare of a consequence, but I will tell you one which is notorious enough. He desired his Ex^{cc}, or rather wished him, to write to his Ma^{tie} of England to know

his pleasure as to that point of letting their Sacrament come into his house upon the like occasion.

By the next post I will send your Hon^r a faithfull & large relation of all the particulars my curiosity could collect as to the Chevalier de Rohan's conspiracy, which I have at last obtained with much difficulty from a person who assisted att his *procès*.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 23th, '75, S.N.

According to what I promised, I have endeavour'd to learne all ye particulars of ye Chevalier de Rohan's crime, & ye traine of ye whole conspiracy, w^{ch}, though kept very secret, I am informed by one who assisted at his process of these following particulars: ¹

In ye month of Aprill last past, ye Traumont, wth ye participation of ye Chevalier de Rohan, wrote a letter to ye C de Monterey, ² without beeing signed or dated, wherein hee intimated y^t Normandy was very much dispos'd to a revolt, & y^t if hee would send a fleet wth 6 thousand men, & armes for twenty thousand, wth necessaries for sieges & two millions of *livres*, that there was a greate man who would engage himself upon ye assurance of thirty thousand crownes pension, & 20,000 crowns for Truaumont. This is looked on as a *coup d'adresse* & not of imprudence, persuading himself that his name, beeing familiar in y^t countrey, might more easily dispose the matter favourable to his designe, & to ye end y^t Monterey might bee ye rather induc'd to second this enterprize, hee obligd himself to putt Quillebœuf & another maritime towne into his possession, & wth ye succour expected to master all Normandy, in so much y^t they might come strait to Versailles without passing river or bridge. Now, whereas his letters might bee intercepted & discypher'd, hee desir'd no answer, butt only y^t in case ye proposiō were approv'd of, it might bee putt to ye Gazette y^t the King intended to make two Marshalls of France, & y^t a courier from Madrid was arriv'd at Bruxelles. Upon this letter meerly, w^{ch} was not signed, ye fleet was sent to appeare upon y^t coast, ye same w^{ch} sailed afterwards for ye Mediterranean, finding they could doe little upon Normandy.

¹ See *Revue Hebdomadaire*, December 1898 to January 1899, and an article in the *Athenæum*, February 4, 1899.

² Acting at this time as the Spanish Governor in Flanders.

In ye meane time, as soone as Le Truauumont saw in ye Gazette those 2 articles of ye Marshalls and ye courier, hee went from Paris to begin ye motions in Normandy.

The misfortune of these unhappy conspiratours was such that, from ye month of April till y^t of August, they could not touch a farthing of money, only at last they got a thousand crowns, whereof they gave as many *livres* to Vandenenden, whom they sent to Bruxelles to conclude the agreement wth Monterey; who, complaining of ye delay of ye executing ye designe, was soon satisfy'd when ye other told him they expected a favourable conjuncture, w^{ch} was then offer'd, in y^t ye King had called ye ban & assemblies, might bee made under y^t pretext without ye beeing suspected.

It was in ye month of May y^t placards were plaister'd in ye Church dores at Rouen, and other notes were scatter'd about that citty, inciting ye people to a revolt, w^{ch} was ye reason why ye Sieur Pelot,¹ first President, caused a strict information to bee made after ye authors of those seditious libelles. Hee perceived y^t Truauumont was a bold, desperate, seditious, undertaking person, & known to bee such since ye last affaire of the *Sabotiers*; ² that hee came often to Rouen, & visited much all parts of ye province; that hee drew many personns in and debauched many of ye nobility of ye country; & ye President, observing him to bee allways in agitation, suspected him very much, & to bee ye more enlightened, desir'd one of his intimate friends, a personn of greate cunning, to insinuate himself into his conversation & y^t of ye company hee frequented, to ye end that, at ye highth of ye debauch, hee might exclaime against ye gouvernement, and seem to bee very much discontented, w^{ch} beeing cunningly perform'd by this gentleman, after two months' insinuation he gott to bee much confided in by Traumont. However, hee had not, as then, told him anything of his plott; they only contented themselves all that time wth bewayling ye misfortunes of Normandy, till one night, at one extraordinary debauch, ye gentleman seemed to bee more extravagantly enrag'd than ordinary & rail'd very bitterly against ye government, whereupon La Truauumont broke his bulky secrett, & said y^t it was not enough to bewayle ye misery but y^t remedies should bee thought upon for ye relief of them. Ye gentleman seeming to bee of ye same opinion, Le

¹ Claude Pellot.

² The 'Conspiration des Va-nu-pieds' in 1639, suppressed by the chancellor Séguier,

Truaumont further explained himself y^t ye Spaniards and Dutch held out their armes to ye Normands, who, upon a little action also, might soon shake off their present yoake. The gentleman then reply'd, y^t for an affaire of y^t importance, there must [be] some greate man to head them, and hee knew of none fitt for ye purpose.

'Twas there y^t Truaumont was catcht in ye toiles spread for him and named ye Chevalier de Rohann, butt ye gentleman alledging that hee was not man of brains to carry on ye great work, Truaumont answered y^t fools allways broke ye ice for such wise men as himself and companions for ye further conduct of ye affaire without any hesitation. After this discourse, they parted, and immediately the gentleman repair'd to ye President about midnight, and opened all ye matter to him, wherein [he] ye instant tooke poast and came to Versailles, where hee discoursed to ye King all ye conspiracy; the next night hee returned back to Rouen, with ye same precautions hee used at his comming. The King, beeing thus inform'd of ye treason, gave order to the Sieur Dayen, Captain of ye *Guardes du Corps*, to cause ye Sieur Brisac to seize on ye Chevalier de Rohan at his comming from masse, w^{ch} was done accordingly. Hee was brought into y^t officer's chamber, where hee ask'd to eate, & victualls was brought him, butt not without asking ye King's permission.

After dinner hee was sent in a coach to ye Bastille, whence, as hee came out to bee executed, he seem'd to bee half dead; his lipps were blew, his face pale & disfigur'd, like a dead visage; hee leaned upon the armes of ye Père Bourdalour, beeing scarce able to walke, though hee endeavour'd all hee could to struggle wth his weakness. I have already written all that past at his execution, butt have since learn'd more matter worthy your knowledge, relating to this affaire. That day, hee tooke ye sacrament at one in ye morning, that father having obtained permission for it from ye Archb^{sh}p, w^{ch} has not been approv'd at by ye Doctour's of Sorbonne. Two houres before hee dy'd hee wrote to Madame de Guimené,¹ his mother, and then it was thought hee might be reprieved, it beeing observ'd, that whilst hee wrote, nobody came over ye drawbridge without his inquiring who it was that came in. His body was not buried at S^t Paule, as was given out, butt his mother caus'd a hired mourning coach to attend at ye Bastille

¹ Anne de Rohan, Princesse de Guémené.

door at 7 in ye evening, w^{ch} carried [him] to bee interred in some place belonging to her.

As for ye Chevalier de Preaux, *escuyer* to M^r de Rohan, & ye Marquise de Villars, De Preaux was look'd upon by ye judges as a very rogue, in that, thincking to save himself, ye first thing hee said upon ye *sellette* was, y^t hee intred into ye affaire only to penetrate into ye secret of his unkle, of his master, and that of his mistresse too, his designe beeing to discover ye whole mysterie to ye King, and whereas that Marquesse entertained a correspondence in letters wth him, and y^t shee was engag'd in their unfortunate action wth him, three letters were found in ye cabinet of Des Preaux, w^{ch} were ye onely proof against her. One of them remarked that hee had spoaken to a certaine cavalier, who had promised 25 good well armed men when shee should demaund them; a second was much of ye same import, and ye third said thus: 'il n'y fit jamais meilleur, et si l'on envoie dix milles hommes on se rendra maistre de tout.' After ye sentence was pronounced, shee reproached him for having kept her letters, for w^{ch} hee then asked her pardon, to w^{ch} she reply'd that that was out [of] season, and hee ought to thinck of nothing butt how to dye well. Now, Sir, you shall observe something worth of notice from ye discourse shee had with the personne who gave mee all these particulars. 3 hours before her execution, this person ask'd M. de Fenvelle, who commaunded in ye Bastille, and of M^{rs} de Berons¹ & de Pommeretuil,² commissioners, leave to speake wth this lady in ye presence of a *greffier*,³ w^{ch} being graunted him, hee sent to her that shee was desired to bee spoaken with by a person from ye Marquis de Brey, her brother; immediately shee thought it was her cozen, M^r de Sarran, who desired to see her, so y^t shee gave answer how shee wanted firmity & courage rather than ye beeing expos'd to render nature weakness, and therefore desired him to retire, w^{ch} beeing told this gentleman, hee sent his name & had ye leave to see her. As soone as hee was come into ye Chappelle where shee sate by ye fire & her confessour, shee rose up, and receiv'd him wth much civility, as if shee had been visited by him in her owne chamber. Hee immediatly condol'd ye seeing her in y^t place upon such a sad occasion, and told her how sorrowfull her brother was for her misfortune & how hee had been at ye King's feet to begg some

¹ See p. 141, n. 3.

² Auguste Robert, Chevalier de Pomereu.

³ Sieur le Mazier.

mercy for her, & y^t his Maj^{ty} had reply'd, y^t it was not in his power, butt y^t hee would concede to him ye confiscation of her goods & estate, to w^{ch} shee reply'd: 'I am very glad to heare y^t my brother shall have my estate, & believe hee will not bee unkind to my children; I had rather hee should have it than lett it bee divided amongst y^{em}, to prevent their going to law.' Butt as to ye pardon hee had ask'd of ye King, shee said y^t the King, beeing ye master, hee could grant it to whom hee pleased. This personne then shewed a *mémoire* of her domestik affaires, to each article whereof shee spoake very pertinently, wth much presence of witt & discretion, w^{ch} being putt in writing shee signed in presence of ye *greffier*, w^{ch} done, shee sayd shee desired 3 or 4 things of her brother:—ye first y^t hee would have God to bee pray'd for her soule; that hee would retaine an affectionate remembrance of her; that hee would take care y^t her body might not bee left in ye streets; y^t hee would pay 30 pistoles to ye receiver of ye clergy, w^{ch} shee owed him; y^t hee would give her maide y^t served her in prison not onely her vestiments shee had with her butt all her other garments in her house. This said, shee turned to M^r de Mazier, & told him y^t shee would keepe no burthen upon her conscience, butt avowed y^t since ye month of May last, shee had communicated the affaire to a gentleman whom shee named, who was engaged to send her a troop of horse whenever shee should desire it. Whereupon ye *greffier* drew up his *process verbal*, w^{ch} she signed. It is thought that her confessor oblig'd her to make y^t declaratiō, after w^{ch}, those personns taking leave of her, [he] said hee had order to take care of her body, and would acquitt himself of that charge very punctually. This personn, beeing in ye Bastille from 8 in the morning till 3 in ye afternoone, the time of ye execution. hee had ye sight & heard all y^t passed. A little before ten in ye morning, somebody awaked this poore lady from a deepe sleepe & told her shee was expected in ye Chappell, w^{ch}, together wth her woman's tears, was a sad presage to her of her fatall end. Shee called for her cloathes without any signe of timidity and sayd shee perceived shee must resolve to dye. Shee caused her woman to retire, least her tears might intrude upon her owne resolution, and went down with an assured countenance, to ye greate surprise of everybody.

As soon as ye sentence was pronounced to all ye criminalls, ye Chevalier de Rohan turned to her & sayd, hee believed hee had never seen her before, & y^t the Chevalier de Preaux was ye cause

of their ruine, butt, however, that hee pardoned him; to w^{ch} shee reply'd that, in truth, shee had never seen him, and that shee pardon'd y^t Chevalier also on her side, who, looking upon his mistresse, & being sensible of ye reproach, could not forbear to make a deepe sigh, whereupon shee told [him] it was then too late to bee concerned to y^t degree, and y^t though those letters cost her her life, shee thanked God who had ordain'd her end and given her ye grace to dye in ye condition shee was in as to ye preparation, because, before having lived in ye noise & splendor of ye world, shee should never have thought of comming to so happy an end; after which, addressing herself to those who were to bee fellow sufferers, shee advised them to putt a good face at ye time of their execution.

At her going out of ye Bastille, her confessour desir'd her to express some Christian humility as shee gott up into ye *charette*, w^{ch} shee did, & sayd shee would willingly doe much more for ye love of God. Her confessour asked this onely to avoid ye trouble shee would have in seeing Mr de Rohan dye, who ought to have been executed ye last, as it was at first ordered, butt ye Père Bourdalour, observing in what a pitifull condition he was, desired of ye Commissaries that hee might bee ye first putt to death, w^{ch} was graunted.

This lady ought to have had ye compliment of precedence, butt, by a choice, dy'd ye last.

The hangman having found ye Chevalier de Preaux next his hands, as soone as shee was executed, this personn caused a sheet to bee throwne over her, and so putt her in a mourning coach; hee threw 2 pistolles to ye executioner & some crowns to his servants to prevent her beeing stripped. Shee said at ye time of her beeing on ye scaffold that shee dy'd wrongfully, as is usual for people after condemnation. Shee was daughter to a *Secrétaire du Roy*, & neece to Mr Sarrau, counsellour in Parliament. The day after ye execution, the K^s sent to compliment ye Princesse of Guimène, w^{ch} shee received with greate effusion of tears & much respect too.

When ye King heard ye recitall of his death hee expressed much concerne for him, in that hee sayd hee would have sooner pardoned a crime against his owne person than that against his people.

See here ye relation of this unfortunate story, w^{ch} I thought

worthy y^r Hon^r's curiosity. I mention not the manner of Mr de Truauumont's death, because in some of my former you have had it.¹

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Jan. 30th, '75, S.N.

I humbly returne y^r Hon^r my thanks for one of the 12th w^{ch} came yesterday at our returne from St Germain, where his Ex^{ce} had been two days & had publick Audiences with the King, Queen, & Monsieur upon her Royall H^{sse}'s happy delivery,² who testified a great deal of joy & wished much for the increase of that illustrious family. They expected Mr de Turenne yesterday, but I believe is hardly yet arrived. He will be received with great kindnes & demonstrations of satisfaction for his having so miraculously finished the *Campagne*. The discourse is at Court as if the *Suisse* would [help] them with 25 thousand horses (the French at present in great want of them) & engage to warrant the Franche Comté during the next *Campagne*. They had news also of Spork's retreat from the frontiers of Champagne upon the approach of Mr de Crequi. As to y^r Hon^r's queere about the trade between the French & Dutch, I remember in a former I acquainted you with a mutuall exchange of 80 passeports for as many merchant ships, & even at present there are many Dutch vessells lading of wines at Bourdeaux, w^{ch} is all I know between them as to trade. The King is thinking to augment his *vieux corps* with 20 companyes, but I doe not hear that any commissions are really issued for that or the raising any other new forces.

My L^d Amb^r, being much indisposed by a shortnes of breath, he cannot acknowledge a letter he received yesterday from y^r Honour, but returnes you his humble thanks for y^r kind opinion of him as to the *Suisse* affaire, w^{ch} he sent the relation of to England for his justification only in case the other party should have produced anything of that nature at home by way of complaint as to his Ex^{cle}'s proceeding, being otherwise not willing, as of inconvenience, that much noyse should be made of it, since the King gave him as good satisfaction as could be well desired. His Ex^{ce} understands also, at the same time, that if the busines had come to further debate at

¹ The last part of this letter is missing.

² On the birth of Philippe, Duc de Chartres and, after his father's death, Duc d'Orléans. Born August 1674.

home in England, that he would not only justify what he had written, but had more to say than he would willingly have brought upon the *tapis*, unless of the last necessity.¹ . . .

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Feb. 7, '75.

Inclosed you have a new *arrest* for the raising of money, & that y^r Hon^r may not misse any that have been published these 5 or 6 years, I have given order to have a collection of all bound up in volumes, w^{ch} shall be sent you as soon [as] it can be well done. I have a treatise also to transmit to y^r Honour, intitl'd 'la defense du droit de Marie Thérèse d'Austrie, Reine de France, à la succession des couronnes d'Espagne, par l'Archivesque d'Ambrun,' if I thought you had it not before.

I believe my Ld Amb^r's indisposition will not give him leave to write to y^r Hon^r by this post, soe that I will presume to acquaint you how his Ex^{ce} had audience of the M. X. King on Sunday-morning, to propose the nomination the States-Generall had projected of Meurs for the Congress, in order [to] a Treaty, of w^{ch} place, notwithstanding all the instances & arguments his Ex^{ce} could use proper for the subject matter, he could not induce his Ma^{ty} to admit or allow of it, he alledging that Meurs was withing the limits of the Empire & that he could not retreat from his late manifesto. Soe that y^r Hon^r perceives that how much soever it may be desired here, the Peace is shoved at least a month backward; I mean the very steps in order to it. When we were at St Germain we saw the ceremony of the Marq^s de Seignelay's being made of the St Esprit, in order to his marriage this day with Mad^{lle} d'Aligre. He is soon to be made a Duke too. Although the French had politicke [*sic*] published how Messina was relieved, I have now the mortification to unsay what I wrote to y^r Hon^r about it & to acquaint you that, on the contrary, they are in a great deal of pain for what they may expect thence, since the news of the Spaniards having taken a port at the mouth of the Port.

I have not time at present to send y^r Hon^r a pretty story w^{ch} happned out to a *Maistre de Requeste* the last week, because, in being an *Amourette*, it requires a large relation w^{ch} you shall have by the next Post.

¹ The next portion of this letter is in cipher.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Feb. 9, '75, S.N.

As I begged leave of your Hon^r in my last, I presume to give you an account of what happened to a *Maistre des Requestes* the last week, whose name I mention not unless I could doe it in cypher, & the lady's I would unwillingly expose, because of the favour she granted him. But the matter of fact is this : after much courtship & prodigality she heard his request, upon condition he would never frequent a certain shee *quondam*. He made passionate protestations with solemne vows that he would never see much as see her again. But see the frailty of humane nature. He had no sooner been *authentique* with this newly acquired mistresse but returned to his first acquaintance, & the other, admiring at his coolnesse in the not seeing her in five days, employed her maid servant to sift out after his conduct where he had employed his time.

This engine, in a disguise, fastens ten crowns upon one of his footmen, who told her how his master had been those nights with the abjured lady, soe that immediately the abused one began to think upon a revenge, & as women's thoughts are soon ripe, hers brought forth this : she fastned 30 pistolls upon 2 *braves* or ruffians, & knowing the usuall hour of his retreat to be between 12 & one, she took the advantage in the darke to have a lane barracadoed with posts (as if some person of quality were sick), w^{ch} he must of necessity passe to get to his house, & soe, being forced to walke afoot, she met him in her coach, & both wondring at the *rencontre* soe late, she asked him the reason of his being afoot ; he told [her] the passage was barred up upon some sick account, whereupon she said her coach should convey him home, it being some distance there. When he came to the door, he made his excuse that his great busines & *proces* at the *Palais* had hindred him from wayting upon her, & desired that, by reason of the danger in the streets, he might accompany her home, w^{ch} she accepted of after some seeming refusalls, & as they passed the Pont Neuf she began to cry out, as if a person in her coach would have insulted or ravished her, at the place where she before appointed her bravoos to post themselves, who coming to the coach, she desired them to pull that man out of it, w^{ch} they did, & tore all his cloaths off, & with two postilion whips scourged him soe severely that the executioners themselves cried, ' *Jesu, Maria, n'est-ce pas encore assez, Madame ?* '

But she made them continue to that degree that he keeps his bed & is in a high fever, &, at present, in law with the lady, who, having contrived her busines soe well that he cannot prove anything by witnesses, makes a reply to his declaration that surely he dreamt & that she knew nothing of it; *au contraire* she had too much respect for him to be guilty of soe much rudenes, soe that that is the case: he pleads his sores, & shee her innocence.

In a few days we shall have a *factum* in print of the story on one side & the defence on the other.

The inclosed tells y^r Hon^r all our present news. I can ad only that though it was reported how Monsieur de Seignelay was married on Tuesday night last I hear now it hath been deferred, Mad^m d'Aligre's Mother¹ alledging she will have him actually in his father's place first, to w^{ch} the King, it seems, will not consent.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Feb. 23, '75.

I have y^r Hon^{rs} of the 6th to acknowledge with my humble thanks, & shall make a very particular inquiry after the marine affaires. In the meantime, I can ascert to you what I learnt two days since at St Germain (my going whither hindred me from writing to y^r Hon^r by the last post), that the King has 10 new built ships ready to be launched, four wherof are at Rochefort, two at Brest, two at Thoulon, and, the other two at Marseilles. They are to carry from 60 to 100 guns. The discourse at Court is that the King will goe himselfe for Flanders & that he will have an Army there of about 60,000 men.

It is most certain that very great provisions are making at Lisle & Ath of all sorts.

To Lord Arlington.

Paris : Feb. 24th, '75.

Yesterday we had the news of the Peace being signed, at w^{ch} these people are the lesse surprised in that it hath been expected long since as a matter that would come to passe. Here hath happned an unlucky businesse to the Venetian Ambassadour.² He

¹ Marguerite Gilbert de Roquefeuil, wife of Claude Yves, Marquis d'Aligre.

² François Michieli.

having thought fitt to putt away his steward, it seems another servant was employed to spy him out & kill him, to w^{ch} he was presst by severall notes from the Amb^r to that effect. But being tardy therin another had the commission, w^{ch} was imediately discovered to the Justice by the first person employed, insomuch that archers were sent out to apprehend the other, & being taken after he had killed one of them, the whole matter has been examined & brought before the King, who is much offended at it, & at first it was sayd that an assembly should be made of the other Ambassadors, who, together with M^r de Pompone, should make a tribunall, & interrogate the Venetian Amb^r; but such a procedure being impracticable for severall reasons, as well the difficulties that other Amb^{rs} would make to meet, as his not being obliged to acknowledge any other judges than his owne masters, it's thought the whole matter will be sent to be heard by them.

The Duke of Navailles, hearing the garrison of Gray was stronger then hee expected, has changed his designe a second time & now is marching towards Besançon.

The Marq^s d'Anjeau & the Conte de Briolle are gone for England; the cause is given out to bee some difference between my L^d of Peterborow and the Marq^s.¹

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Feb. 27, '75.

The Carnivall hath even frozen up the Ministers at Court to the degree that no business or news is stirring, wherfore I may be excused if this comes without an 'olive branche' in that we see nothing like an appearance of a Congresse or the place in order to it. They expected here that the Prince of Orange should have named Nimiguen,² or Aernheim, upon the refusall of Meurs, but as yet no new proposition appeareth. It seems the Spaniards have no mind to a Peace this summer, upon the inagination that the advantages of the next campaign may fortify their pretentions to the Pays Conquis (or *cedez*) as well to that of Burgundy. But I hear it is resolved that the stresse of the next actions will bee on Flanders, & yet we perceive not they make any great preparations on that side, as the French doe on this.

¹ See letter dated March 5, 1674.

² Nimwegen.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 13, '75.

Your Hon. will find, by the inclosed MSS¹, the advantageous entrance of M^r de Vivonne at Messina, but, being yesterday at S^t Germain's, I found the story of their having taken or sunke any ships to be only a surmise ; all they said was, that after a rude fight all day, separated by the night, M^r de Vivonne entered by favour of it, & that the Messinians have made oath of fidelity to the French King.² The King told the Amb^r yesterday he would goe soon for the *Campagne*. He removeth on Thursday come senight to Versailles, where his stay will be about 15 days, & thence for Flanders. M^r de Schomberg is like to come back & the Duke of Luxemburg to succeed him there.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 20th, '75.

My L^d Amb^r being gone to S^t Germain's, & myselfe disposed to follow him, I have just time left to make a cover for the inclosed MSS. Great preparations are making here for the approaching *Campagne*, & the King himselfe, it's thought, will remove about the middle of Aprill.³ Yesterday the Danish *Envoyé* had a *pacifique* Audience, wherin he pretended to ascert his master's great desire to contribute towards a generall peace. Mons^r Gaumondt is sent *Envoyé* for Italy, to make good impressions amongst those Princes to relish the busines of Messina. Fiveteen ships of war are sayled from Brest for the Mediterranean, as thought to preserve their footing in Sicily, as is M^r d'Almeras going from Thoulon with fresh supplies for that island.

The King's resolutions for the *Campagne* are yet firme that he will set out about the middle of Aprill.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : April 3^d, '75.

The most remarqueable news at present is here of the French having entred by surprise, or rather intelligence, the cittadell of

¹ The enclosure is missing.

² Louis had encouraged this revolt in Messina by sending troops and food to help the insurgents, thus compelling the Spaniards to send their principal forces there (Mignet, iv. 341, 342).

³ Flanders was the principal seat of war in the campaign of 1675.

Liège, w^{ch} is esteemed here as a *coup de maistre* & of great advantage to them.

As yet no answer is come from Vienna as to the expedient about the Prince of Furstemburg, w^{ch} retardeth the going of the French new named Amb^{rs} towards the place of Treaty ; the others, who had orders to be prepared for that conference, seem to be dissatisfied at the disappointment, after the equipage they had made for it. But the reason is given for the alteration in that though, in the main, their opinions shall concentrate, yet in particular they shall have distinct provinces, M^r Colbert that of England, M^r de Vitry that of Germany, & the other that of Italy, because of the Messinian affaire.

We hear from Marseilles that Naples is also disposed to a revolt, some papers having been posted up to exhort or admonish the Spannish garrison to retire, for fear of a consequence.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : April 6th, '75.

Your Hon. will find some hints of a commotion at Bourdeaux which is thought now to be appeased, if those turbulent spirits will accept of the armistice sent them from hence. They have killed many people under the notion of their being collectors ; a Councillor fell into the like misfortune, & a President was dragged thro' the streets & thrub'd till he cried, ' Vive le Roi sans impôts ! '

I have yet no answer from Rennes about the *arrests* relating to the Newfoundland trade.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : April 17th, '75.

My being at Versailles on the last post day pleadeth my excuse that I wrote not then to y^r Hon^r. I doubt not but that, from other hands, you heard of Mons^r d'Armagnac's¹ disgrace in being bannished the King's & Dolphin's presence for ever upon some *choquant* words he gave the Duke of Montausier on Thursday, at the entrance to the ceremony of the Dauphin's washing the poor men's feet, he pretending, as a Prince of Lorraine, to have

¹ Louis de Lorraine (1641-1718).

the precedence in a challenging language & the Dauphin's presence.

On the same day, Madam Montespan had orders to retire, w^{ch} she did imediately obey. The cause is sayd to be the briske & home applications the new confessour¹ made to his Ma^{tie's} conscience.

The King's removeall for the *Campagne* is sayd to be resolved eight days sooner than the 15th of May, of late appointed for his journey, & this day hee seeth a review of all his equipage.

We are yet in expectation to hear what the Emperour will resolve upon as to the rub that hindreth the Congresse.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: April 27th, '75.

The time of the King's departure drawing nigh, he hath employed this week in the making the reviews as well of his house troops as of his equipage. The first are designed to march on the 4th of May, & he himsele is resolved to remove about the 10th. His Ex^{cc} is preparing to follow him, soe that we must contrive to have our letters goe & come through a faithfull hand at Calais directly from & to us, without making the tour of Paris.

As soon as the King shall be gone, the pious Madam Montespan returns to her attendance on the Queen. It's thought that the Germans will be earlier in the field towards the Rhine than the French troops can possibly get together, whatever hast is making in their preparations.

Here was yesterday a report, that took soe great an impression, as scearly to believe what my L^d Amb^r ascerted to the contrary. They would needs persuade his Ex^{cc} how he had received advice by a courier from Vienna, of the Emperour's consent to depose P^{cc} W^m of Furstemberg, in his Ma^{ty} of England's hands.

The King hath sent for the first President, in order to legitimating the youngest daughter of Mme de Montespan under the name of M^{lle} de Bologne. The K^s sent Monsieur 50 th^d crowns for the making of his equipage, but he refused to accept them, & sent the King thanks with this circumstance, that his presence had been soe needlesse the other *Campaignes* that he could not make

¹ François d'Aix de la Chaise, known as Père de la Chaise, succeeded Père Ferrier in December 1674.

this with honour in that he hath no command. The King's army is to consist of 50 thⁱ men, & that of M. de Turenne of 30 thⁱ besides the other reserve bodies. 24 galleys are gone from Marseilles to carry the succours that are at Thoulon for Messina, with 6,000 sacks of corn.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : May 1st, '75.

Being just come from Versailles, & the Post going away, I have only time to cover the inclosed, & to acquaint your Hon^r with the King's having ordered, upon the result of [a] great Councell of Warre, all Mons^r de Turenne's troops to *rendevous* at a place near Colmar on the 18th instant, & will remove himselfe on the 13th or 15th. Your Hon^r will have heard a loud cry of the Protestants of Rennes by reason of the rable & scholars having burnt their temple, notwithstanding what the governor could doe to prevent it, for he could not hinder their breaking up the King's magasins of tobaccoe & taking it all away.

My L^d Amb^r had yesterday an opp[or]tunity of speaking with Amb^r Colbert upon the affaire he was to have entertayned M^r de Pomponne with. He finds these people full of jealousy, but knows no reason for it.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : May 8th, '75.

Since my last to y^r Hon^r, the King hath alter'd his resolution, & intendeth to depart from S^t Germaines on Saturday ; my L^d Amb^r being, through God's great mercy, in a hopefull way of recovery, believeth he shall be able to follow him about 3 days after. The Musqueteers marched away yesterday & a great part of the King's household. Turenne's troops are drawing towards Alsace, where the Germans, under Montecuculi, threaten to be in the field before the French. By a barque arrived at Marseilles a good account is given of the French affaires at Messina, how they are in possession of all the forts & in hopes of doing something considerable when the new supplies get to them. The Spaniards have unluckily lost two ships ; in one, the French found a good summe of money sent for the payment of their troops in Sicily, & the other had 500 bales of silke on board. The Sorbonne dispute about the Pope's

fallibility maketh a great noyse here & will doe more in the Court of Rome. It is looked on here as a designe on purpose, by order from a high power.

M^r le Bret is passing into Catalognia, being reinforced in order to the besieging some place; Puyseidor is thought to be the most likely.

Amb^r Colbert is buying of M^r de Bailleul¹ the charge of *President au mortier*, who, into the bargain, is to be made Councillor of State, & his son to be Councillor in Parliament.

The King is sending three *cordons bleus* to Rome for Sonnino,² brother to the Conestable de Colonna, & the Dukes de Branchiano³ & Sforza.⁴

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

St. Quentin: May 24th, '75.

We have been here four days expecting an escorte, soe that y^r Hon^r can have little of news from us, there being no certainty on what place the King will make the first attempt. He is thought to be now between Binch & Charleroy. We hear that M^r de Crequi is gott into the towne of Dinant & is fired upon by the Germans in the Castle.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

St. Quentin: May 28th, '75.

Your Hon^r seeth by the date that we have been detain'd here these 8 days for want of an escorte, though his Ex^{ce} hath written twice to Court for one, w^{ch}, together with our English letters having missed their way, or rather been stopped, putts us out of all measures. Nothing is yet certainly knowne about the King's intentions, w^{ch} many say are to make some considerable siege, but the wiser men doe not believe he will harrasse his army thus late in the Spring, but keep his men in good condition for a field battle, if the enemy can be drawne to one. In the meantime, we hear that M^r de Montecuculi advanced towards Alsace superiour in strength to M^r de Turenne, in soe much that the successe of the summer that way is much doubted by the French in that the French can-

¹ Louis de Bailleul, Marquis de Château-Goutier.

² Philip Colonna, Prince of Sonnino.

³ Flavius Ursini, Duke of Bracciano.

⁴ Joannes Paulatius Sforza.

not be able to defend the passage of Haguenau & that of Colmar at the same time.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Compiègne : May 30th, '75.

Your Hon^r findeth that we are somewhat retreated, occasioned principally from the impossibility of getting up with the King directly, by reason of the distance & the great escortes w^{ch} are requisite to convey his Ex^{cc}, soe that as soon as he shall be in a condition to take another route, he intendeth by Rheims & Verdun to descend the Meuse towards Maestricht, whereabouts the King intendeth to pass the greater part of his time, especially if Liège can be fortified to the degree they expect.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

From Clermont : June 8th, '75.

This snip in hast & hurry informeth y^r Hon^r of my L^d Amb^r's decease ¹ the last night after having much suffered. He retreated to this place in hopes that a few days' repose might have confirmed him somewhat better in his health, that thence he might be able to remove towards Philipville, but it pleased God to ordaine otherwise, to our great affliction.

To Sir Joseph Williamson

Paris : June 12th, '75.

Since our coming hither, disorder & grieve have soe stunned us as not to be curious after much news. The paper tells y^r Hon^r what passed at Huys, to w^{ch} I can add only that my letters from Strasbourg say they have no account from Montecuculi since his passing the Rhine at Spire, but I am just now told that a courier is come with advice of his being repassed again, & that M^r de Turenne had thereupon marched his army over a bridge he had made of boats, within 2 leagues of Strasbourg, soe that now it is expected the game will be on the other side. It is sayd that Limbourg is besieged by M^r de Crequi's body.

¹ This refers to the death of Sir William Lockhart.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June 22th, '75.

Herein your Hon^r hath an account of the present news, to which I have to add that just now I am told of Limbourg's being surrend^d on the 20th, soe that now we expect to hear which way the P^{ce} of Orange will move, since the King's army will endeavour to hinder his joyning with the Duke of Lorraine & Lunenburg's forces.¹ The last advice from M^r de Turenne left him in two leagues from the Germans, at least as strong as they are, especially in foot, the others having hardly 6,000 foot in the whole army. The stirres in Brittanny grow more solid & doe not yet evaporate. The clergy have given the King four millions five hundred thousand *livers* as a *don gratuit*. I hear that M^r de Colbert has sent an expresse to command the captains of the four French ships of warre, who had made the late bustle in the Channell, to come & give an account of their behaviour.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: June 26, '75.

I have this account from Limbourg: y^t after seven days of ye trenches being opened, it was surrendred upon capitulations advantageous enough, because ye garrison might have retired into ye citadell & defended themselves some dayes longer. On ye 22^d it marched out at ten in ye morning wth armes, baggage, match lighted, & two p^s of canon, towards Ruremonde, in order to ye joyning ye Prince of Orange; the 'Lieutenant du Roy' & ye Major of ye place were taken on ye *logement* at ye breach, being not seconded by those y^t should have follow'd y^m, & a captain of ye Reg^{mt} royall, wth 15 souldiers, took 70 prisoners on a work w^{ch} had no communication wth ye attack. It is not yet known w^{ch} way ye King intends to move, that depending on ye motions of ye Prince of Orange, who will endeavour to joyn ye Duke of Lorrain & ye Lunenbourg forces. Wherupon his Ma^{tie} decamped on ye 19th from Visett & passed ye Meuse wth his army, & seemed to direct his course towards Collogne, though others are of ye opinion he will encamp between Lovain [Louvain] & Bruxells & so allarm this

¹ Créquy had been sent to the Moselle to prevent the Dukes of Lorraine and Lüneburg from invading the Electorate of Treves (Mignet, iv. 355).

latter place. Here enclosed ¹ I send you a printed account of what has passed lately in Catalogne, & an extract of all my advices from Italy. My letters from ye French camp at Wisett of ye 22^d instant do advice y^t Montecucule's army is posted at Schutem ² & Mons^r de Turenne at Attenheim. On one side he hath ye bridge of ye Rhine, & Willsten, on ye other, w^{ch} is a passage on ye little river of Kinsesg, but finding he had there too much ground to maintain, & two great a distance between ye two extremities, he hath caused his bridges to discend two hours lower, wherby ye French army will be more united in a lesser compass & a better place for forrage. The two armies are so near each other as to be wthin hearing of drums & trumpetts. The Germans are encamped very advantageously in meadows, where their horse may subsist somewhile, but are wanting in other provision, in y^t they have not ye communication they had wth Strasbourgh, by w^{ch} they are deprived of 300,000 rations of bread w^{ch} was prepar'd there for y^m. Mons^r de Turenne cannot attaque y^m because he must goe through narrow passages & ill way, besides their army being *à couvert* by a great wood near ye river of Kinsseg [*sic*]; on their side, if they have intentions to give battell they may do it easily, by reason of a great plain where they may range themselves very commodiously. Twelve boats from Brisac have reliev'd Mons^r de Turenne wth provisions, who hath thereupon made bridges over ye Schutter upon ye belief he may find a way to attaque ye Germans, whose principall succour of provitions comes from Frybourg & Wittenbourg.³

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris; June 29th, '75.

Yesterday I received your Hon^{rs} favour of the 14th, & humbly thanke you for y^r kind reprimande about the brevity of my letters, to wh^{ch} I make bold to observe to y^r Hon^r that it is true for five weeks, wherein we were jogging to & againe between this place & S^t Quentin, it was impossible for me to give you any other account than of our motions, the Governours themselves waiting intelligence from the Court by reason of the distance & interceptions.

¹ The enclosure is missing.

² Schutelem.

³ See *Histoire des Princes de Condé*, par M. le Duc d'Anmale, vol. vii. pp. 626-627.

Since my returne no Post hath gone unburthned with an account of all that hath passed. 'Tis true I doe not affect to write all I hear, for severall reasons: first, for fear of being thought weak in case of falsenes, & then some things, though true, may burne my fingers at home in the representing them, wherein already some precautions have been given & caused me to change an indifferent style. I choose, therefore, rather to putt anything that may be unwellcome to some palats into French, & send it in a character & paper apart. You will please to pardon me in the account I gave y^r Hon^r of these nicetyes, which hinder me from writing mighty long letters. If anything relate imediatly to the King's service, nobody can be more zealous than myselfe, & for any of y^r Hon^r's owne particular commands, you know that I am of old dedicated to the observance of them.

I cannot positively ascert it, but 'tis sayd here that the Duke of Nieuburg hath made a treaty with this King much of the same nature of that between his Ma^{ty} & the Prince of Monacoe,¹ wherby the Duke retayns the souverainity of his territoryes & permitteth the French to putt garrisons into the principall places & make what magazines shall be thought fitt; in returne, his children shall have pensions & benefices in France for their good subsistence & establishments. My letters from Marseilles advise that six ships of warre & thirty barques, laden with provisions, are posted for Thoulon, to joyne there with Mon^r d'Almeras & pursue their voyage to Messina, & that other marchant ships were equipping in that port to make for that place the next month & to be escorted by some ships of warre. From Thoulon they write M. d'Almeras was gone from 'Les isles de Jeyes'² towards Messina with a squadron of 5 men-of-war, two fireships, & two other vessells with provisions, 8 great barques, & severall other lesser, & that, in Thoulon Roade, three other ships of war lay ready to be sent after them. The magistrates of Messina have framed four thousand men into three regiments, w^{ch}, with the French, will compose about 8,000 men, & that body is to attend M^r de Vivonne in order to the gayning of ground. It is sayd that the King will have near 30 ships-of-war & twenty galleys on the coast of Sicily. From Roussillon they write that the consternation was very great in Catalogna upon M^r de Schomberg's approach within 4 leagues of

¹ Louis Grimaldi, Duc de Valentinois.

² Probably 'les Isles d'Hyères.'

Barcelonne, & his intentions to besiege 'le Roze' when M. d'Almeras' squadron can favorise that attempt with his squadron on that coast. The Conte S^t Maurice¹ is [about to give] answer from Court about the route they will give him in order to the getting thither; thence he will hasten for England.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: July 6th, '75.

The news of the taking 'La Scaletta' is not confirmed only, but contradicted also. There is nothing new from either armies. Montecuculi is posted advantageously with a wood & a marsh on each side, & the open part is fortified with lines of *circonvallation*. They contend who shall subsist longest & take the advantage of either's retreat.

Coll^e Massietti hath entrapped a body of the King's great guards, to the number of about 400. The great men about the King have advised him not to expose his person in case of a battle, but M^r de Louvoy gives him reasons for the contrary.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Septemb^r 11th, 1675.

Yesterday we received the news of Treves being taken on Fryday last, after its having sustayned three breeches. It is sayd, that the day before that the town was taken, the French made such a vigorous salley that retooke the *contrescarpe* and *demyline*, at which the Germans were so possessed with rage, that the next day they past the *fossé* and entred the place at the severall breeches they had made, and came up to the retranchements, whereupon the officers capitulated to be prisonners of warre, that the soldiers should march out to Vitry le françois and be obliged not to serve within a twelve moneth, to which capitulation the Marechal de Crequy would not signe, but rather suffered himself to be taken prisoner of warre. They are here at Court not very much satisfied with him for the first defeat, and his friends are glad he is not in the power of his ill-wishers. As for the P^{cc} of Condé, he complaineth of his army's not being within 8,000 men soe strong as Montecuculi's, and his horse in an ill condition; he is still near

¹ François de Saint-Maurice.

Schlestadt, but would be glad of any pretext of coming away himself, in which case the Duke of Schomberg is to command in his place, and the Duke of Navailles to succeed him in Roussillon.

The French Amb^r in Sweeden hath assured his master here that the Sweeds' Army will be fortified with 22,000 men the next spring.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: October 30th, 1675.

We have no other news from the Rhine than that the Imperiall Army descended towards Spire, that the fortifications at Lauterburg were near finished, that M^r de Montecuculi intended to goe for Vienna, and that the Marquis de Bade was to command the Army till such time as the Duke of Lorraine should be able to get up with it. The Count Mansfeld's¹ arrivall is still expected, and with the more impatience in that it may change the face of affaires. The Prince of Condé hath settled the commerce as formerly between the French and the city of Strasbourg, by having made the passages free & secure.

The Parliament of Rennes were yesterday to sitt for the first time at Vannes, and by an *arrest du conseil* the great street of Rennes is ordered to be razed, and the *faubourgy* also, where the sedition began, where a pyramid is to bee erected upon which the *arrest* is to be posted. Eight *Procureurs* of the Parliament, with the *Greffier* and twelve of the Presidial, are made prisoners there. The Prince of Condé will be soon here & the Marshall de Montmorency also.

Cardinal Howard² passed by here two days since, in his way to Rome, attended by many English gentlemen.

The Portuguese Adm^l is gone towards Villafrancha, in the *comté de Nice*, to sett ashore an extraordinary *Envoyé* who is going to condole at the Court of Savoye, and it is sayd here, that he hath orders to joyne the French forces which are arming out against M^r de Ruyter. At Thoulon they worke day & night for the equipping out of 20 ships, and, to the end they may be the sooner provided with men, they take 22 men out of each galley for that expedition; however, the Italians say that if M^r de Ruyter will

¹ Henry Francis, Count Mansfeld (1641-1715). He acted as Envoy from the Emperor.

² Philip Thomas Howard, brother to the Earl of Arundel.

act *de bonne foy* his fleet may bee at Sicily before the French can get out; the Spanish fleet was under sayle towards Sardaigne.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: November 23th, 1675.

The King hath sent a *lettre de cachet* to *de[s] grande[s] cordeliers* at Parys, wherby he forbideth them to send any deputies to Rome.

An Ingeneer is come from Rennes, in Brittany, to have his Ma^{ty}'s approbation of a model that he hath made for the bilding a citadell there, and another is to be made at Bordeaux in the *faubourg S^t Michel*, which with the *Chasteau Trompette* will be able to bridle those people; besides which, Monsieur de Brest [Bret], who commanded in Catalogne, is come into that place with 5 or 6,000 men. His Ma^{ty} hath ordered a thousand pistoles a peice to remount his severall brigades, & 1,100 *livres* to each brigadier, and 500 crowns to each *Murechal des logis*. The P^{ce} de Condé is expected here to-morrow. His Ma^{ty} hath ordered the new opera to be ready on the first of January, and all the liveryes to be ready, as if he intended to make a step to Metz, but nobody knows yet what may be his intentions, or the designe of that journey, in case it holdeth.

Yesterday the late difference between the Princesse of Toscane & the Duchesse of Guise was accomodated by his Ma^{ty} himselfe. The occasion of it was that the former had turned away an *esquier* and a gentlewoman without giving the other notice, although she had recommended them to her. Yesterday also was ratified the Treaty of Neutrality between the King & the Duke of Hannover, wherby an augmentation is made of 20,000 crouns. The *Parlement* of Bordeaux is transfered to Condom, and the walls of that city are to be demolished.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: February 15th, '75.

This post must contradict extreemly what the last carryed of the pretended victory the Span^{is} & Dutch were sayd to have had over the French. Two days since a courier came from M^r d'Estrées to Mons^r de Pomponne. I had a sight of the letters, which containd that on the 24th a *chaloupe* came to Naples whose patron made a report of the fight; how that De Ruyter had lost his Vice-Adm^l, & that the French had lost two ships & two fire ships, that

the vessells laden with provisions made the grand tour of the island & soe gott into Messina, whereas also the French fleet. De Ruyter thereupon, pretending that the terme of his orders was expired, declared to the Viceroy that he was upon the quitting the Sicilian Seas in order to his returning home. Whereupon, as he appeared before Naples, the Viceroy went on board him & offerd him his plate & jewells, & that the crowne of Spain should be his caution for the bearing him harmeslesse, but he declined all, & was seen in the Corsor Seas on the 1st of this month.

M^r Colbert hath two days since made a *fonds* of eighteen hundred thousand *livres* towards the maintaining sixteen good ships of warre this year in the ocean for the security of their commerce. Orders are sent to all captains to be ready for the *rendevous* on the 25th instant, & in case their companys bee not compleat, they are not onely to be casheerd, but to reimburse the winter quarter money.

The P^{ce} of Condé, upon a message delivered him by M^r de Louvoy, by the King's order, purposing how necessary it would be for his Ma^{ty}'s service that he should command on the Rhine, made answer he was ready to comply with whatever his Ma^{ty} should desire of him, particularly since it was promised that his Ma^{ty} would goe that way in person.

And 'tis sayd that Monsieur will command a flying army near Metz.

*To Mons^r le Chev^r Jenkins.*¹

Paris : Feb. 15th, '76.

We cannot yet learne any certayne particulars of the late action in the Mediterranean. The reports are soe divers & *contre-quarring* that we don't know what to believe. But in two days we shall be clearer sighted. The King hastneth the *Campagne* preparations, & at last the P^{ce} of Condé has accepted of the command of the Rhine, provided he have 16 thous^d choosen horse & 24,000 foot. His Lieu^t-Glls will be the Mareschaux de Crequy & Schomberg. The Duke his son is to head the army of 50,000 men in Flanders & to have under him the Mareschaux de Luxembourg & la Fueillarde. His Ma^{ty}, with his household troops, will stay at Metz & will have 30,000 men between the 2 armys to supply as occasion shall require.

¹ See footnote 1, p. 248.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris: Feb. 19, '76, S.N.

The last letters from *Italie* brought us ye confirmation of what my last to your Honour containd, with this addition only, y^t ye reason why de Ruyter quitted the Sicilian Seas proceeded from his observation y^t ye Spanish fleet consisted of only 9 ships, ill-equipped and worse armed, which were all ye P^{ce} of Montesarchio commanded, excepting two newly arrived from Spaine, viz^t, ye 'Captain Royal' and a lesser frigatt, with which force ye Spanyards had pretended to ye States-General y^t they were able to fight ye French alone, w^{ch} de Ruyter, finding to be otherwise than he expected, fortified his other reasons (as ye terme being expired & ye money agreed upon not all pay'd him) and induced him to come away. Ye fight began ye 17th of Jan. at 18 of ye clock by ye Italian account,¹ and ye wind y^t separated ye fleet ended it at sun-setting; Ruyter commanded 19 ships and 9 Sp^{sh} galleys which had joynd them; Mons^r Du Quesne had 22 ships. The F^rench lost two fire ships & two ships-of-war, all four were sunck; ye next night, ye F^rench being favored with a good wind sayled out of Messina 11 ships strong, and joynd Mons^r Du Quesne, & Montesarchio with his 9 ships joynd de Ruyter, but ye F^rench, being befriended by ye wind, got ye height of ye Island, continued their tour towards ye Levant, & entred Messina with all ye succours. In ye meantime, de Ruyter, continuing his sayling homewards, hath been seen off of Ligorne [Leghorn]; ye letters add also, y^t three days after de Ruyter's leaving Naples, a Spanish courier brought to ye Viceroy ye States-Gen^ls orders for his stay in those p^{ts} yet some while longer, & y^t immediately thereupon *chaloups* were sent out after him to endeavor ye retrieving him.

The King hath ordred 5 companys to be added to each French regiment of foot, and intendeth about ye 15th of April to be in ye field; and, in ye meantime, they are framing ye state of ye troops w^{ch} are to compose ye two armys for Germany & Flanders; those w^{ch} are quartered in Guienne, *Bretagne*, and Normandy have orders to quit those countreys, thereby to enable ye people ye better to pay ye *tailles* and other taxes for ye fitting ye *Espagne*. This Court is impatient to hear ye issue of ye generall Dyet of ye *Suisse* Cantons, whether they will consent to ye levyes and

¹ *I.e.* six hours before sunset, according to the old Italian reckoning.

recruits w^{ch} ye Ffrench have desired in consequence of ye alliances, notwithstanding ye hereditary one they have with ye House of Austria, and besides ye designe they have had to remaine neuter during ye war.

The Court of Savoye will not declare itself as to ye siding with Ffrance; ye Councell of y^t P^{ce} seems to be divided, & part of it hath no aversion to ye Spaniard, by reason of ye neighbourhood, so y^t all y^t can be done for ye present will be ye getting recruits thence for ye Italian regiments y^t are in ye Ffrench service. This Court is much offended at an invective *mémoire* printed lately at Vienna by order of ye Imp^l Councell called ‘*Observatio contra memoriam vel notitiam legatis Gallicis Noviemagum ituris datā.*’

To Lord Arlington.

Paris: Feb. 24th, '76.

Here hath been little of alteration since my last to your Ex^{cy}, unlesse it be that the P^{ce} of Condé intendeth for Fflanders upon some suddain enterprise, and thence he is to goe for Germany. Orders are given for the making of 8,000 tents for 24,000 foot, each tent containing three souldiers, which in all appearance are to be made use of before summer. All the hospitalls of women & girles are employed in the making a great quantity of sacks for earth. This King has at last caused the dispatch to be made of passeports for the Pope's Nuntio, but his Ma^{ty} hath not yet resolved for the altering those for the Lorrain ministers, the Ffrench pretending that the giving the title of Duke of Lorrain is so essentiall as that the King's right & pretentions depend upon it, alledging also, that it is sufficient that they are admitted into the negotiation, a prerogative they could never before obtaine, & that the declaration, made in Jan^y $\frac{1}{5}$, related only to the Duke deceased. It is farther said that the mediatours ought to insinuate to the Im^l Ministers and their allyes the equity & justice of the Ffrench pretensions in this point, & what facilities his Ma^{ty} hath advanced as to the preliminaries. They add, also, that were this difficulty removed, the Imp^l Ministers have rais'd another to retard the negotiation, which is that they will not send their plenipotentiaries before it be regulated where the Pope's Nuntio, as mediatour, shall reside, which cannot be at Nimiguen, because the Catholick religion is not publickly exercis'd there, unlesse one of the first churches

be given to the Catholicks during the negotiation, in ye same manner as was during the time the said city was under the obedience of his Ma^{ty}.

The last expedient, for the reconciling the two businesses about the passeport and the Prince of Fürstenberg, seemeth to admit of no other temperament than that his Ma^{ty} may be induced to give the title of Duke of Lorrain in the passeport, and that the Imperour, having absolutely refused to give that Prince his liberty, but, on the contrary, persisting stil to doe only what he promis'd to the Suedes, in the causing his processe to be suspended, that his Im^{ll} Ma^{ty} may give the city of Newstadte for prison to the said Prince with all necessary liberties, and that his affaire shall be terminated with the negotiation of the Peace.

The Prince of Strasbourg¹ has made powerful instances at Court about the passeports, because the retarding of them hath done much prejudice to the Prince his brother.² The Chevalier Terton,³ Ambassadour in Denmark, hath had new orders sent him to persuade his Danish Ma^{ty} to an accommodation with the Suedes *et* to presse the consumation of mariage, whereby the war may be ended.⁴ There are above 4,000 Suitzers which the King hath caus'd to be raised without any noise, which passe from time to time in little bodyes without any arms into France; they have 20^s each during their voyage. The captains of French galleys have orders to repaire immediately to Marseilles and a great [number] are already gon, his Ma^{ty} intending to send to Messina, about the end of March, 25 galleys, 7 great ships of war, & near 5,000 men, with 20 *brigantines* laden with provisions. It is believed here, that with these forces, together with those that are already entred Messina, the King will make himself master of those seas, and that he will make considerable conquests at land. Yesterday wee had the confirmation of the French navy's being gotten into Messina after the fight, with the losse only of two men of war.

¹ Francis Egon de Fürstenberg.

² Hermann Egon de Fürstenberg.

³ Hugues, Chevalier de Terlon, French Ambassador to Sweden.

⁴ Probably the marriage of Anne Stuart, daughter of the Duke of York, with George, Prince of Denmark.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Feb. 26th, '76, S.N.

My being at Court hindered me from writing to your Hon^r by the last Post. Inclosed I send you a list of the officers that are stated downe for the serving in the four armies this year.¹ The P^{ce} of Condé hath excused himselfe in that his illnesse of the gout doth hinder him from making this *Campagne*, so that it's thought he will passe the summer at Chantilly, & the Duke, his son, follow the King in quality of volunteer. The King's army is to consist of 55,000 men, with 30 thousand of which number the enemy is to be faced, whilst, with the remaining 25,000, his Ma^{ty} will make some siege, which being finished, he will come back & then this great army will make detachments for the strengthening of that towards Germany which at the beginning, is to be composed of onely 25,000 men. The equippage of the ships at Thoulon & the galleys at Marseilles is very much hastned. They are to convey 5,000 men to Sicily about the end of March, with fresh succours of provision to be transported on 20 *bregantines*. The P^{ce} of Condé advised the King to send twice the number of men for the entire conquest of that Island. Le Chev^r de Chaumont² brought the last confirmatory news thence, & sustayns that the French lost in the fight but 3 fireships, & that De Ruyter lost as many ships that were sunk. I have seen Mons^r du Quesne's letter to his wife, wherein he giveth a very ingenious account of all. 'Tis dated the 29th of Jan. from Messina. As for de Ruyter, he hath joyned the 6 ships who were gone for Legorne & was sayleing westward from Cape de Corse,³ as if he had no intentions to retorne towards Sicily, the winds being otherwise favorable for his moving eastward.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 11th, '76, S.N.

The letters from Naples of the 18th past give a large account of Mons^r de Ruiter's reception there, having been mett by the Viceroy as far as Stromboli, with all the galleys. He arrived there on the 12th & was lodged at the Pallace Roiall; his fleet consisted of twenty and seaven saile, whereof three were of the Spanish

¹ The Ducs de Luxembourg, de Duras, de la Feuillade, de Navailles, de Vivonne, and the Comte d'Estrades, Comte Schomberg, and the Marquis de Rochefort.

² Alexandre, Chevalier, later Marquis de Chaumont.

³ Corsica.

squadron & ye like number of that of Biscay, the rest being all Dutch ships. He intended thence to Melasso, where the rest of the Prince of Montesarchio's squadron is to joine him. A squadron of French are sayled from Messina towards Provence, where ye new equipage of ships & galleys stay onely for the embarking of the souldiers' ammunitions & provisions, being otherwise ready to sett sayle.

I believe I omitted, in my last to your Hon^r, the acquainting you with Mons^r de Lauzun's second misfortune, he having, after a tedious labour of many nights, at last pearced the wall, which was at least two yards thick, & got as far as the *contrescarpe* of the Castle of Pignorolle,¹ but was there discovered by a woman, & consequently putt into a stricter confinement.

The troops of the King's house have orders to be ready to march on the 25th instant, & his Ma^{ty} will be moving a little after Easter.

The Duke de Valois is still very ill. Yesterday his Ma^{ty} declared that the C^e de Vermandois, Admirall of France, should give him his shirt, at his uprising, next after the Princes of the blood, preferably to all other Princes.

Here hath been a great solemnity at ye reception of the Duke de Crequi in the city, as Governour of it, & mighty harangues were made him by the *Provost des Marchands*, with the title of Monseigneur, which is somewhat extraordinary; in a few days he is to give him & the *Eschevins* a splendid Entertainment at his own hostel.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : March 15th, '76, S.N.

The inclosed manuscript² is the Paris news, to which I have nothing to add, but what my Italian letters containe of the Prince of Montesarchio's alarme, & hastning to Madrid, in order to the justifying his innocence against the aspersions which his enemy's have imprinted in the Catholique Majeste's breast, for the being cause of the shipwreck of some Spanish ships, in the not observing the ViceRoy's orders, & in the not joyning sooner M^r de Ruyter in the fight against the French. The Viceroy of Naples is continuing to send new succours into Sicily of fresh troops, in hopes that the French will hardly be able to keep the field there all the

¹ Pignerol.

² The enclosure is missing.

summer. On the other hand, the deputies & jurats of Messina, at the taking leave here, have passed all necessary acts for the protection on his Majeste's side, and their fidelity on the other, in the same forme as they did to the Spanish crowne formerly ; after that, the King sent to each of them his picture sett with diamants, so that they are on their way to Marseilles to embarque themselves on the galleys, which are ready to set out for Messina. The King hath sent an expresse for the exchange or ransome of Mons^r de Montclar,¹ & Mons^r de la Brossé, lately made prisoner near Brisac.

To Sir Joseph Williamson.

Paris : Feb^{ry} ye 17th, 1677, S.N.

We are not yet certaine of ye punctuall day when his Ma^{ty} intends to sett out for ye *Campagne*, but 'tis thought 'twill be between ye 5th & ye 10th of the next month.

The Duke of Luxemburg is to have the command of his Ma^{ty}'s army towards ye Rhine this yeare againe. Ye citty of his name having made new excursions, & great *degusts*, it is thought that ye Maj^{all} de Crequy will be obliged to march y^e way to prevent any future incursions.

Our last letters from Sicily left ye citty of Messine in great want of provisions, y^e ships y^t were sent under the command of M^r la Barre being returne[d] cornelesse, y^e magistrats of Zant having refused to give 'em *pratique*, so that M^r De Quesne is gone wth 8 men of war to cruise in y^e Mediterranean, in order to the buying up of what marchants' ships he shall meete loaden wth corne, as great quantitys of it as may supply y^e Messinean necessities till such time as y^e new succours (w^{ch} are preparing at Thoulon) arrive there for their reliefe, where y^e Duc de Vivonne (being much incommoded in his health) is returning, & y^e Marshall de Lorge is to succeed him in that command & will embarque wth ye 4,000 men (wherof 1,400 are Suitzers) which are designed thither.

The King has made no new alteraçõs as to his generall officers w^{ch} are to attend him this *Campagne* in Flanders, y^e same Marshalls, Lieutenant Generalls, & Field Marshalls being to accompany him, as did y^e last year ; only the Mar^{all} de Schomberg goes as volunteer to observe ye King's order as occasion shall require, he being unwilling to be under any of y^e senior Marshalls.

¹ Joseph de Pons de Guimera, Baron de Montclar.

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